

Algerian delegation in Tunis

TUNIS (R) — A high-level Algerian delegation, including the number two to President Chadli Benjedid in the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), arrived in Tunisia on Tuesday, the official TAP news agency said. Monnaouf Sherif Messaadia and Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb were met at Tunis-Carthage airport by Prime Minister Rashid Sfar and other government ministers, TAP said. Mr. Messaadia said his talks in Tunis were within the framework of regular contacts between the FLN and Tunisia's ruling Destourian Socialist Party (PSD). The trip follows a summit this month under the auspices of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd between Algeria and Morocco who are at odds over the Western Sahara. Algeria backs Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for the territory's independence.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Israelis unwilling to return land

TEL AVIV (R) — Nearly half of Israel's Jewish population is unwilling to hand back any part of the occupied West Bank in a peace settlement according to an opinion poll published Tuesday. The poll in the Maariv newspaper noted that 46.4 per cent of 1,236 Israelis questioned last month do not want to return any West Bank land. The poll indicated that only 32 per cent of those questioned were willing to give back certain areas of the West Bank, 14.4 per cent would return all occupied land excluding East Jerusalem and 4.4 per cent would concede Jerusalem as well. It showed 24 per cent willing to freeze Jewish settlements in occupied territories while 38 per cent would refuse to do so. Some 60,000 Israelis have settled among 750,000 Palestinians in the West Bank since 1967.

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Israeli planes fly over Bekaa

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli warplanes streaked over the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley and Palestinian bases in east and South Lebanon on reconnaissance missions Tuesday, police reported. A police statement said two jets broke the sound barrier over the ancient Bekaa City of Baalbek, a major base for Iranian-backed Shiite extremists, at 12:53 p.m. Sonic booms rattled the Roman city, 80 kilometres northeast of Beirut. But Syrian soldiers in the area did not open fire as the planes turned to head south. The Israeli air force has bombed Palestinian bases in Lebanon 14 times this year, killing 55 people and wounding 171.

Tehran says Syria to continue support

LONDON (R) — Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa on Tuesday promised Syria's continued support for Iran in its war against Iraq, Tehran Radio reported. "Syrian President Hafez Al Assad instructed me to inform your excellency that despite all the efforts undertaken in Baghdad... Syria will always stand beside the Islamic revolution of Iran," Mr. Sharaa quoted as telling Iranian President Ali Khamenei. Mr. Sharaa arrived in Tehran earlier on Tuesday with a message for Mr. Khamenei from Mr. Assad.

Wounded ex-minister of Egypt heads for treatment in U.S.

CAIRO (R) — Former Egyptian Interior Minister Hassan Abu Basha, wounded in an assassination attempt last week, left Tuesday for treatment in the United States. Mr. Abu Basha, 65, interior minister from 1982 to 1984, was shot in the leg and arm by two bearded gunmen last Tuesday. Police said Monday they had arrested two men suspected of involvement in the attack in which two other persons, one a child, were wounded. Mr. Abu Basha played a key role in rounding up members of the outlawed Al Jihad fundamentalist group after it was accused of planning the assassination of President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Pakistan says 2 killed in Afghan raid

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan said Tuesday Afghan jets had again bombed and rocketed its north-western border region killing two children and wounding eight other people. A government statement said strong protests were lodged on Tuesday with the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad against the "unprovoked attacks" on Sunday in Chitral district and on Monday in North Waziristan tribal area. The two sides have frequently accused each other of cross-border attacks during the eight-year-old war in Afghanistan between the Soviet-backed government and Western-backed guerrillas.

Sri Lanka resumes anti-rebel raids

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan air force planes resumed strafing of the rebel-dominated Jaffna peninsula after a 15-day lull, killing at least four people and wounding two others, residents told Reuters on Tuesday.

King, Mubarak review efforts for peace talks

Combined agency dispatches

CAIRO — His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday held talks believed related to efforts towards convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices.

The two leaders held two rounds of talks attended by senior officials from both sides. The first round was held immediately after the King's arrival here Tuesday afternoon and the second was held after an afternoon session. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the two leaders were also assessing the results of last month's Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers.



His Majesty King Hussein is received upon arrival in Cairo on a short working visit by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday (Photo by Farouk Ibrahim)

Shamir vows to reject peace conference despite Shultz appeal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, whose government faces collapse over a proposed Middle East peace conference, vowed Tuesday to reject the U.S.-backed plan "by all the ways and means at our disposal."

Mr. Shamir blamed Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who has proposed the conference, for trying to "sway the public with the magic influence of the word 'peace' and for willfully forcing a breakup of the coalition government."

Responding to Mr. Shamir's comments, Mr. Peres said he saw little point in reconvening a cabinet debate on the issue and opened talks with religious party leaders to seek support for early elections, Israel Radio reported.

The increasingly bitter rhetoric by the two leaders during a one-day recess in a cabinet debate over the issue appeared to support

port predictions that the 31-month-old ruling coalition was nearing its end.

On Monday, Israel's inner cabinet deadlocked at its first formal debate over a Middle East conference, with both sides of the 10-member forum refusing to budge from their pre-stated positions.

A second inner cabinet meeting was scheduled for Wednesday. The forum, which often decides major issues on behalf of the cabinet, is evenly split between Mr. Peres' Labour Party and Mr. Shamir's Likud bloc.

Mr. Shamir's comments in a radio interview Tuesday came as Likud ministers voted unanimously to support the prime minister's condemnation of Mr. Peres' proposal for a broad international forum to convene and discuss Middle East peace.

Israeli officials said earlier Tuesday that U.S. Secretary of

State George Shultz has told Israeli leaders that they should agree to take part in the proposed conference.

The contents of the Shultz letter, delivered before Israel's inner cabinet met Monday, were disclosed by aides of both Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir.

Israeli officials on both sides said that Mr. Shultz urged the leaders to accept an international conference as a way to start direct talks with the Arabs. The Jerusalem Post said he wrote that there was no chance of achieving direct talks otherwise.

Israeli officials said Mr. Shultz wrote the U.S. was backing Mr. Peres because Arab states said they would enter direct talks only under conference auspices. They quoted him writing the conference would have no powers to impose solutions.

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McFarlane concedes raising contra aid despite denials

WASHINGTON (R) — Former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane on Tuesday admitted he helped raise money from foreign countries for Nicaragua's "contra" rebels despite his previous denials.

Speaking in sombre tones before televised congressional hearings, he also conceded that his statements on the matter to a congressional panel in December were misleading. At that time he said he knew nothing of foreign aid schemes for the rebels at a time official U.S. assistance was barred by law.

Mr. McFarlane — who tried to commit suicide in February as the Iran-contra scandal buffeted President Reagan — said that in December he had not given "as full an account as I could have" under questioning by the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

The grim-faced ex-Marine was being grilled for the second day before a joint Senate-house panel investigating the sale of U.S. arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to the rebels fighting Nicaragua's leftist government.

Mr. McFarlane, 49, who served in the White House from 1983 to December 1985, on Monday detailed how a nation identified only as country 2 — widely reported to be Saudi Arabia — donated more than \$32 million to the contras, mostly after Congress barred official U.S. aid in October 1984 (see page 2).

House chief counsel John Nields on Tuesday confronted Mr. McFarlane with his December statement.

Mr. McFarlane said then: "I did not solicit any country at any time to make contributions to the contras. I have seen the reports that various countries have... and I have no idea of the extent of that or anything else."

When Mr. Nields said Mr. McFarlane did, in fact, have a good idea of country 2's funding of the contras, Mr. McFarlane replied: "yes."

Asked if, as he said on Tuesday, he had a hand in obtaining contributions from that country, he again replied "yes."

When the lawyer noted he had not told that to the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. McFarlane replied: "No... this is not as full an account as I could have given."

Tuesday's session opened with an announcement by Senator Daniel Inouye, chairman of the Senate panel, that a long-lost \$10 million donation to the contras from the Sultan of Brunei finally had been traced.

He said the contribution, made in August 1986, wound up in the wrong Swiss bank account instead

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Jordan denies agreeing to limit Soviet role in peace conference

Khatib rejects Tindemans' remarks over PLO saying it is premature to discuss participants

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib on Tuesday denied that Jordan had made any commitment limiting the Soviet role in an international conference on the Middle East and reiterated the Kingdom's stand that Moscow should have full participation in the proposed forum to work out a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In a press statement made to news agencies, Mr. Khatib said a report carried by the New York Times said that Jordan had made a commitment to the U.S. and Israel to limit the Soviet role in the conference was not true.

"I wish to restate Jordan's position represented in calling for the conference and inviting all parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), with full Soviet participation as one of the five permanent members of the Security Council," Mr. Khatib was quoted as saying.

In its report the New York Times, quoting diplomatic sources, claimed that in addition to committing itself to limiting

the Soviet role in the proposed conference, Jordan had also agreed to limit the powers of the conference. The newspaper quoted the sources as saying that commitments came in what it described as "a memorandum of understanding" conveyed to the U.S. by Jordan. The first part of the "memorandum," according to the newspaper, calls for a meeting of the five permanent members of the Security Council based on council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The second part of the document, said the New York Times, calls for the meeting to invite "geographic bilateral committees" to conduct negotiations.

The newspaper quoted its sources as saying that the third part of the memorandum was to have been kept secret. This part limits the power of the conference — which would involve the Soviet Union as its capacity as a permanent member of the Security Council — by stipulating it could not impose solutions or veto agreements made by the bilateral committees.

The report was the latest in a series of reports in the Western

and Israeli media of what was described as an agreement among Jordan, Egypt, the U.S. and Israel over the proposed conference. Jordan has categorically denied the reports. His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published last week that these reports amounted to "muddling" which had not helped the Kingdom's efforts to advance Middle East peace efforts.

In a statement carried by Reuters on Monday, Mr. Khatib said it was premature to talk about who would attend the proposed conference before Israel accepted the principle of convening it.

Commenting on remarks on PLO representation made by Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans in Israel earlier in the day, Mr. Khatib reaffirmed Jordan's stand that all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict should be invited to attend the international conference. "To talk about who should participate in the conference is premature and indulging in imagination, until Israel announces its acceptance of

(Continued on page 5)

Central Bank warns against using local funds for investments abroad

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) issued a statement on Tuesday warning banks and financial businesses in Jordan against investing locally-raised funds in foreign stock markets or foreign currency without its prior approval.

The statement also urged investors and members of the public to invest their money in local businesses and projects, which, it said, would yield good returns and help strengthen the national economy.

The statement said that the CBJ had noticed that a number of financial companies had been approaching citizens through letters and agents, urging them to deposit their savings with them for investments in businesses abroad where, these companies claim,

yield higher rates of interest.

"The business which some of these companies and financial institutions have been conducting is shrouded with mystery and indeed some of them went broke due to their improper and fraudulent dealings," said the CBJ statement. It said such business as some of these financial companies had been conducting entails a high degree of risk largely due to fluctuating exchange rates of leading world currencies.

Therefore, the statement said, both ordinary citizens who entrust their savings with these companies and the national economy as a whole would suffer badly through such dealings with these companies or their agents who have no licence to operate in Jordan.

Jordan gets \$26m World Bank loan for urban projects

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Bank will grant Jordan a \$26 million loan to help finance the country's third urban development project, expected to cost \$93 million, according to Dr. Hisham Al Zagha, director general of the Urban Development Department (UDD).

The bank agreed to the loan following talks he conducted with its officials during his visit to Washington, Dr. Zagha said.

He said that the UDD will allocate \$51 million for the infrastructure of the project and the building of housing units for families of limited income, \$32 million for building schools, health centres, community centres and public utilities, and a total \$10 million

will be loaned to beneficiaries to help them purchase building materials.

The government will contribute to the project by supplying UDD with \$21 million, and the Housing Bank will give a loan of \$29 million, while the rest of the UDD's share in the project will be raised from the department's own resources, Dr. Zagha said.

The third development project, building 5,000 housing units in Aqaba, Amman, Zarqa and Tafleh and also 2,000 housing units in a number of other regions. He said that nearly 44,000 people will benefit from the housing units and the project will create 10,000 jobs.

Soviet treaty to include space weapons

ROME (Agencies) — The Soviet Union is preparing to present a draft treaty on intercontinental nuclear missiles that will include a ban on deployment of weapons in space, the chief Soviet negotiator to superpower arms talks said Tuesday.

Yuli Vorontsov told a news conference in Rome that a draft accord to halve intercontinental nuclear arsenals put forward by the United States at the Geneva talks last week lacked the important element of space weapons.

"We are preparing to present in Geneva our own draft of an accord for a 50 per cent reduction, an accord that will certainly include a clause which concerns a commitment not to introduce weapons into space," Mr. Vorontsov said.

He said Moscow would study the U.S. draft closely in order to

extract elements that could be contained in the Soviet offer, but did not say when the draft would be presented.

In Moscow, a Soviet spokesman said the Soviet Union had five objections to the U.S. draft treaty on strategic offensive nuclear weapons.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said the Kremlin was studying the U.S. draft but had concluded that it did not in fully match tentative accords reached at last October's Reykjavik summit.

The U.S. draft provides for a ceiling of 6,000 warheads on the strategic forces of both superpowers and a limit of 1,600 for vehicles capable of carrying the warheads.

Gerasimov listed Moscow's reservations as:

1. The U.S. proposal that the

missile cuts take place over seven years.

2. The U.S. proposal for "sub-limits" on how many warheads could be fixed on a single type of launcher.

3. The absence from the U.S. draft of proposed limits on long-range sea-launched cruise missiles.

4. The absence from the U.S. draft of provisions for talks on the future elimination of all strategic offensive weapons.

5. The failure of the U.S. draft to draw a connection between cuts in strategic arms and curbs on space defence systems.

Gerasimov made clear Moscow viewed the last reservation as crucial, saying: "In our view, preventing the arms race from spreading into space is an important condition of a strategic arms agreement."

Murphy holds talks in Kuwait after denying meeting Iranians

KUWAIT (Agencies) — U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy discussed the Gulf war and Middle East peace prospects with Kuwaiti leaders and later denied a local press report that he had met an Iranian delegation in Abu Dhabi.

Mr. Murphy arrived early Tuesday from Qatar hours after a bomb exploded in a commercial district of Kuwait City, the sixth blast this year in the country.

He had a one-hour meeting with the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and a two-hour session with Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah which he said centred on the Gulf conflict and Middle East peace moves.

Mr. Murphy denied to reporters after the meetings that he had met Iranian officials when he

visited the United Arab Emirates (UAE) last Saturday on the second leg of a Gulf tour.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Rai Al Aam, quoting senior unnamed sources in Abu Dhabi, said Mr. Murphy had a four-hour meeting with an Iranian delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati.

Mr. Besharati had talks with UAE officials on that day, but Mr. Murphy said: "I did not meet him during my visit to Abu Dhabi."

According to Al Rai Al Aam the American envoy informed the Iranians of Washington's stand on the Iran-Iraq war, now well into its seventh year.

In his subsequent visit to Baghdad, it said, Mr. Murphy briefed Iraqi leaders on the Iranian viewpoint.

"Murphy will also transfer the views of Iran and Iraq to his government when he returns to Washington to offer an initiative... at the U.N. Security Council to adopt a resolution seeking to compel the two warring parties to stop the conflict," the newspaper said.

On Monday, a Tehran Radio commentary reiterated the Iranians' rejection of all peace efforts until the government of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is overthrown.

Accusing the United States of tilting towards Iraq, the commentary added: "It is better that the Americans, instead of threatening and using their claws and teeth in the Persian Gulf, end their support for the Iraqi regime."

Dynamite attacks persist in Beirut, cabinet crisis lingers on

BEIRUT (AP) — Police said unidentified bombers lobbed four dynamite from a speeding car in west Beirut during Monday night. The dynamite exploded harmlessly around garbage dumps.

That raised the number of bombings since Syria deployed 7,500 troops in the city's western sector Feb. 22 to 93. The Syrians moved in then to quell factional fighting and end three years of anarchic militia rule.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks, which appear aimed at discrediting Syria's efforts to restore order in west Beirut.

Syria also has 25,000 troops in east and north Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate.

Syria has also stepped in to seek to resolve a cabinet crisis triggered by Prime Minister Rashid Karami's resignation May 4.

Mr. Karami, a pro-Syrian Sunni Muslim, cited the failure of his half-Christian, half-Muslim cabinet to cope with an economic crisis that has sent inflation soaring to an annual rate of 200 per cent.

Syrian leaders have told advisers of President Amin Gemayel that no cabinet will succeed unless warring factions "agreed in advance" on how to deal with the economic crisis, the As Safir daily said.

Two of Mr. Gemayel's closest aides, former Foreign Minister Elie Salem and military intelligence chief Simon Kassir, were in Damascus over the weekend for talks on political reforms to end Lebanon's 12-year-old civil war.

The emissaries returned to Beirut Monday to brief Mr. Gemayel. They will return to Damascus for another round of negotiations Thursday, a presidential palace statement said.

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McFarlane speaks of Reagan's efforts to keep contras supplied

WASHINGTON (R) — Former White House aide Robert McFarlane has provided new insights into President Reagan's personal efforts to keep aid flowing to Nicaragua's contra rebels at a time Congress had banned such support.

Mr. McFarlane, in five hours of testimony to a joint congressional committee Monday, also said fired White House aide Oliver North had told him the diversion to the contras of profits from the covert sale of U.S. arms to Iran was sanctioned from above.

Investigators have said the issue would probably be pursued when the 49-year-old ex-marine, Mr. Reagan's national security adviser until he resigned in late 1985, is cross-examined Tuesday on the second day of his testimony.

Questioned Monday by Senate chief counsel Arthur Liman, Mr. McFarlane told of a conversation with Col. North last Nov. 25 hours after Col. North had been fired from the National Security Council (NSC) for allegedly masterminding the diversion scheme.

"Ollie, it was approved, wasn't it?" he said he asked Col. North. "And he said, 'Yes, Bud, it was approved. You know I wouldn't do anything that wasn't approved.'"

But Mr. McFarlane, opening the second week of hearings into

Mr. Reagan's worst political crisis, said he did not ask Col. North whether he meant Mr. Reagan, John Poindexter — Col. North's boss at the NSC who resigned the same day he was fired — or another official.

Mr. Reagan has repeatedly denied knowledge of the diversion of funds to the contras. The president has also denied he directed or knew of official U.S. efforts to keep aid flowing to the contras during the congressional ban.

Mr. McFarlane said Mr. Reagan ordered continued efforts to improve the image of the contras and assure them of administrative support, "to help them hold body and soul together," until Congress again agreed to back them.

Mr. McFarlane gave examples of White House involvement in the contra supply effort, including Mr. Reagan's personal intervention with the head of state of a Central American country — identified by committee sources as Honduras — to unblock a shipment of arms to the contras.

He also said that during his term as national security adviser from October 1983 to December 1985 he had kept Mr. Reagan fully informed of third country contributions to the contras.

Mr. McFarlane described how one country — referred to in testimony as "country two" but believed to be Saudi Arabia — had contributed \$1 million a month in 1984.

Shortly after Saudi King Fahd paid an official visit to Washington in February 1985, Mr. McFarlane said he learned that contribution would be increased to \$2 million a month.

Mr. McFarlane raised eyebrows among the 11 senators and 15 congressmen on the two committees when he said Mr. Reagan had reacted with "gratitude and satisfaction but not surprise" to the news just two days after he met King Fahd.

The Saudi embassy said in a statement Sunday the issue was not raised at that meeting.

Mr. Reagan, asked by reporters Sunday whether he had listened to Mr. McFarlane's testimony, said: "No. And I'm not going to make any comment."

The White House issued a statement denying once again that Mr. Reagan had broken or condoned the breaking of any laws in supporting the contras.

Mr. McFarlane was expected to be cross-examined by the House of Representatives chief counsel John Nields, who committee sources said was unlikely to subject him to tough grilling.

This would be in part, they said, out of concern for Mr. McFarlane who attempted suicide in February in distress over what he has termed his mistakes in the Iran-contra operation.

The hearing Monday provided insight into the kind of pressure Mr. McFarlane had come under during his involvement in the Iran arms shipments.

"Were you asked to play God and choose one hostage?" Mr. Liman asked, referring to a call from an Israeli official in 1985 who told him Iran had agreed to free one of several U.S. hostages in exchange for 508 Tow anti-tank missiles.

"Yes, and I asked for Mr. Buckley," Mr. McFarlane replied.

William Buckley, CIA station chief in Beirut, was seized in March 1984. It was later learned he had died in captivity about three months before Mr. McFarlane's choice.

Mr. McFarlane said Dr. Benjamin Weir, a churchman kidnapped in the Lebanese capital in May 1984, was released instead.

U.S. judge dismisses Arab deportation case

LOS ANGELES (R) — A U.S. judge has angrily dismissed deportation proceedings against seven Arabs and a Kenyan originally alleged to have belonged to the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Defence lawyers and Arab-American groups had claimed the case was a test of a new policy singling out Arabs and Arab-Americans for deportation.

Judge Ingrid Hrycenko had told government prosecutors on Friday she wanted the assistant district director of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS), Gilbert Reeves, to be in court Monday to explain why he had decided the defendants should be arrested.

During Monday's preliminary hearing on whether the eight were targeted unfairly for prosecution, the judge was told Reeves was not in court, and she said that without him as a witness the government had failed to prove the charges were signed by someone with proper authority.

Visibly shaking with anger, she dismissed the proceedings and left the bench.

Defendants and their lawyers cheered and hugged each other when Judge Hrycenko abruptly dismissed the case.

The Arabs are Aiad Khaled Barakat, 26, Naim Nadiem Sharif, 28, Bashar Hasam Amer, 24, Khader Musa Hamid, 32, Ayman Mustafa Obeid, 24, and his brother, Amjad Mustafa Obeid, 22, both engineering students, and Michael Ibrahim Nasif Shehadeh, 30, also a student.

Also arrested was Julie Nyangugi Mungai, 29-year-old accountant from Kenya and Hamide's wife.

The defendants were originally accused in January of violating a law under which immigrants may be deported for belonging to a group that advocates World communism.

The government dropped these charges and accused six of the defendants of violating provisions of their entry visas, mostly by oversteering their stay in the United States.

"Charges against the remaining two, Hamide and Shehadeh, who are legal U.S. residents, were changed. They were then charged, under a different section of the same immigration law, with belonging to a group advocating the overthrow of the U.S. government."

Defence lawyer Dan Storrer said the defence team was served Monday with a new set of charges, basically the same as the revised charges but signed by Ernest Gustafson, INS district director in Los Angeles, instead of Mr. Reeves.

Mr. Storrer said he expected government lawyers would appeal against Monday's dismissal.

Kuwait starts manhunt after blast

KUWAIT (R) — Security forces mounted a manhunt Tuesday after the sixth bomb blast this year in Kuwait killed a Yemeni office worker Monday night.

The explosion came several hours before U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy arrived from Iraq on the fifth leg of a tour to assure Gulf Arab leaders of continued American support.

It ripped through the offices of Al Rashid Travel Company, agent for the U.S. carrier Trans World Airlines (TWA) among other airlines.

Twelve Kuwaiti men, whose names suggest they are mainly of Iranian origin, are currently on trial here charged with sabotage in connection with the year's first four blasts. Four more accused

are still at large.

These explosions, and a fifth three weeks after the sabotage trial opened on April 4, occurred around key oil sites and offices of state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation. The Kuwait News Agency, quoting an Interior Ministry statement, said Monday night's bomb in the usually busy Fahd Al Salem Street commercial district, caused "heavy material damage."

It identified the victim as a male Yemeni employee of the travel firm.

The explosion went off during a lull in business as the country's mainly-Muslim population broke the daily fast during the holy month of Ramadan.

Mr. Murphy arrived in the ear-

ly hours of the morning as police counted roadblocks and searched cars on motorways busy with people returning home from late-night social outings and feasting that traditionally follow the breaking of the fast.

His tour comes as Kuwait and Washington officials discuss the transfer of half the emirate's 22-tanker fleet to the American flag to try to protect them from attack in the Gulf.

Iran has attacked merchant ships sailing to and from Kuwait in apparent retaliation for Kuwait's backing for Tehran's war enemy Iraq.

Kuwait has also chartered three Soviet tankers and Moscow said they would get naval escorts if needed.

Mahdi urged to probe Dinka massacre

KHARTOUM (R) — The government of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi was under increasing pressure Tuesday to probe a massacre of south Sudanese Dinka tribesmen by government-backed militiamen.

Pacifico Lolik, a member of the Supreme Council Joint Presidency and south Sudan's most senior government official, told state television Monday night he was greatly disappointed by government handling of the incident.

He called for an urgent and independent investigation of the killings which took place late in March.

Witnesses to the massacre by militiamen fighting rebels on behalf of the government said at least 1,500 people were killed in the town of Al Dacin. Govern-

ment officials put the figure at 200-300.

"I am greatly disappointed about the silence that met this disaster and the inability of regular forces in Al Dacin to prevent this regrettable incident... This is gross negligence that is unjustifiable," Mr. Lolik said.

The opposition National Islamic Front (NIF) has called on the government to sack Interior Minister Sidahmad Al Hussein for his failure to protect the lives of the Dinkas.

NIF in a statement called the massacre "an unprecedented incident in our contemporary history."

It also warned of the risks involved in what it called the government's continued policy of arming tribes to fight rebels of the

Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), composed mostly of Dinkas and which is seeking autonomy for the non-Muslim south from the mainly Arab north of the country.

The massacre at Al Dacin, according to the witnesses, was in revenge for an earlier victory by the SPLA over the militiamen.

Diplomats in Khartoum say the government has been arming tribes traditionally resentful of Dinka influence to fight the SPLA. They say the tribes have used the weapons to settle old scores with civilian Dinkas and members of other tribes.

Mr. Lolik said that "stinking blows to innocent Dinkas just because (SPLA leader) John Garang is a Dinka is immoral and inhuman and carries grave consequences."

Rain falls too late to save Somalia's livestock

DUSA MAREB, Somalia (R) — Rain has begun to fall on the arid plains of central Somalia, but too late to help three million nomadic herdsman who have lost most of their livestock in a cruel but largely forgotten drought.

The air is filled with the stench of dead cows and camels, whose rotting carcasses litter the roadside.

Many people are close to death from starvation in this dusty town of thatched huts 600 kilometres north of Mogadishu. Undernourished children with swollen bellies and matchstick legs are everywhere.

Government officials and relief workers say about 600 people starved to death in central Somalia in the past two months.

Now, with the onset of the long rainy season, three weeks later than usual, water-borne diseases pose a new threat to the debilitated local people.

"The water could kill more people than the drought itself," one United Nations official told Reuters.

But the biggest tragedy is that most of Somalia's nomadic herdsman, who account for 60 per cent of the five million population, have lost the camels, cattle, goats and sheep which normally provide their only livelihood.

The officials said 80 per cent of the livestock in 12 of Somalia's 18

regions perished during the drought, which followed the short rainy season in October and November last year.

Hasna Ibrahim Aptidon was one of those who lost everything.

"I lost my five-year-old daughter last week along with all my livestock," she told Reuters as she scooped cupfuls of dirty yellow water from shallow pools in a dried-up river bed.

Hasna said her husband was out in the barren scrubland digging for roots and scavenging for anything else that might keep the couple alive.

Local officials are angry that foreign donors have been slow to come to the aid of the drought victims.

The government in Mogadishu did not launch an international appeal for aid until recently and the drought, which affects a remote and inaccessible region, has gone largely unreported.

"One problem is that the world has lost interest in the starving people of Somalia," one Western diplomat remarked.

Some aid is at last beginning to trickle in.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) has meanwhile provided fuel for water pumps and a team of experts to assess the drought region's needs.

A major difficulty in bringing relief to the area is continuing border tension with neighbouring Ethiopia and the presence of 1.5 million Ethiopian refugees in camps near the frontier.

Relief workers said these refugees are also in a precarious situation and warned that their position would grow worse unless a solution is found quickly to Somalia's dispute with Ethiopia over the Ogaden Desert.

The two countries fought a war for possession of the Ogaden in 1977-78 and skirmishing has continued across the border ever since.

"Even combined, the relief organisations can do very little, because the refugee problem will get worse in the near future if a permanent solution is not sought with urgency," said an official of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Last January, Ethiopian-backed rebels of the Somali National Movement kidnapped 10 French doctors and nurses in one northern refugee camp and held them for two weeks before releasing them in Addis Ababa.

Iranians given secret White House tour

WASHINGTON (R) — Iranian officials were given a secret late-night tour of the White House during negotiations on an arms-hostages deal last September, says Richard Secord, an important witness in the scandal.

The retired air force major general, who appeared for four days before a congressional investigating committee last week, told the U.S. ABC Television Network Monday that White House aide Oliver North guided three Iranian officials on the tour.

Gen. Secord said the officials — "including one person who was close to a very high official," in the Iranian government — were spirited into the United States for negotiations at the White House complex.

They met Col. North, Gen. Secord, and CIA representative

George Cave for several days, "and were even given the standard tourist tour of the White House late at night" by Col. North, Gen. Secord said.

President Reagan was not in the White House at the time, he said, but the secret service was aware of the tour.

Gen. Secord said the committee investigating the diversion of profits to contra guerrillas fighting the left-wing Nicaraguan government did not question him about the tour because they were running out of time.

Col. North was the National Security Council staff member who ran the Iran arms operation. He was fired after the disclosure that money from the arms deal was diverted to the contras.

Gen. Secord said the purpose

of the Iranian visit was to revive the trade of U.S. arms for American hostages held in Lebanon, which had collapsed the previous year after a trip to Tehran by former secretary bead Robert McFarlane.

Gen. Secord said a nine-point plan drawn up at the secret sessions envisaged a high level meeting of U.S. and Iranian officials to seek better relations between the two countries.

The immediate result was the shipment of 500 Tow anti-tank missiles to Iran for which the United States had been promised the release of two of the three U.S. hostages then in Lebanon immediately, with the third to follow shortly afterward.

However, only one, David Jacobson, was actually released on Nov. 2, 1986.

3 states to discuss Libya's role in Pacific

PORT MORESBY (R) — Papua New Guinea announced that it would host a summit meeting of three Melanesian South Pacific island states to discuss growing discord over Libya's interest in the region.

Prime Minister Paias Wingti said the May 21 meeting of the Melanesian spearhead group, Vamatu, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, would try to find common ground on the issue.

The Libyan question, which has soured relations between Australia and Vanuatu, is expected to be a thorny topic at the meeting of the 13-nation South Pacific Forum in Western Samoa on May 29 and 30.

"We cannot allow the question of Libya's interest in the region to divide members of the South Pacific Forum," Mr. Wingti added.

Vanuatu Monday announced a ban on all Australian warships and aircraft in protest against Canberra's opposition to its growing links with Libya.

Vanuatu's Prime Minister Walter Lini has also said that any attempt to raise his country's Libyan connection at the South Pacific Forum would lead to the collapse of the regional grouping.

Chad determined to take Aouzou Strip

PARIS (R) — Chad intends to reconquer a northern frontier region controlled by Libya but needs more French aid before it can launch an offensive, the Central African country's ambassador to France has said.

Ahmad Allam-Mi told reporters the Chadian army was determined to continue a five-month-old military drive until it had ousted Libyan forces from the Aouzou desert strip running along the border between the two countries.

"If we had the means we would not hesitate a second to liberate

this territory," Mr. Allam-Mi told a press reception.

"What we are asking of France is that it continue to assist us, as it has done in the past, and give us the means to liberate the totality of our territory."

The barren 110,000 square kilometres Aouzou region was annexed by Libya in 1973 but is claimed by both Tripoli and N'djamena as an integral part of their territory.

Libyan forces have suffered a series of defeats in other areas of northern Chad since January,

leaving Aouzou — which includes a major air base — as their only remaining military stronghold.

Mr. Allam-Mi said Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi was committed to maintaining a military presence in Chad and accused Tripoli of massing troops in Aouzou and just north of the border.

"We are convinced that the Libyan threat has not disappeared... Libya is massing troops and it will not wait long before trying to take its revenge," he said.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19	
14:00 Koran	22:00 Evening Show Continued
14:10 Review of programmes	23:00 News Summary
14:15 Alice in Wonderland	23:05 Evening Show Continued
14:40 Arabic series	23:57 News Headlines
14:45 Arabic programme	24:00 Close Down
16:30 Arabic play	
17:55 Religious programme	
18:50 Arabic series	
19:10 Religious programme	
19:20 Ramadan competition	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Islamic dialogue	
21:10 In search of the Trojan War	
22:00 News in English	
22:30 The Bard	
RADIO JORDAN 885 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 95.0 KHz. SW Tel: 77111-19	
07:00 Light Music	07:00 Newsdesk
07:30 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
08:30 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
09:00 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
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23:00 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
23:30 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk
24:00 Morning Show	07:30 Newsdesk

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
* An art exhibition by Samer Obeidat and Issam Al Sahab at the Choung Bank Gallery.	
* An exhibition of children's paintings and educational techniques at the University of Jordan's model school.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 6610267	
American Centre, Tel. 644371	
British Council, Tel. 641520	
French Cultural Centre, Tel. 637009	
Georgian Institute, Tel. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre, Tel. 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre, Tel. 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre, Tel. 629777	
Haya Arts Centre, Tel. 665195	
Hussein Youth City, Tel. 667186	
Y.W.C.A., Tel. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A., Tel. 664251	
Amman Municipal Library, Tel. 637111	
Univ. of Jordan Library, Tel. 843335	
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Mustafa Jabal Lubiedeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubiedeh, Tel. 627440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.	
Terresanta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubiedeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5.30 p.m. Tel. 623266.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 678906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 772361.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.	
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Samir), Tel. 811295.	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

16:00	.....	Agaba (RJ)
16:20	.....	Cairo (RJ)
16:30	.....	Damascus (RJ)
11:00	.....	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:05	.....	Kuwait (RJ)
18:30	.....	Cairo (RJ)
18:50	.....	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:05	.....	Los Angeles, Geneva (RJ)
19:35	.....	London, Geneva (RJ)
19:45	.....	Bangkok (RJ)
20:15	.....	Madrid, Belgrade (RJ)
20:15	.....	Belgrade (RJ)
02:00	.....	Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

08:25	.....	Karachi (PK)
12:00	.....	Sana'a (Y)
12:35	.....	Cairo (MS)
13:40	.....	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:35	.....	Kuwait (K)
15:45	.....	Tripoli (L)
16:00	.....	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:40	.....	Cairo (Y)
17:30	.....	Baghdad (IA)
18:30	.....	Paris, Damascus (AF)
21:00	.....	Frankfurt (LH)
22:00	.....	Tripoli (PK)
08:45	.....	London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

03:00	.....	Madrid (add.) (RJ)
07:45	.....	Agaba (RJ)
12:00	.....	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:05	.....	Vienna, Belgrade (RJ)
13:00	.....	London (RJ)
14:30	.....	Cairo (RJ)
20:30	.....	Kuwait, Bahrain (RJ)
21:30	.....	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:45	.....	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:00	.....	Baghdad (RJ)
22:00	.....	Jeddah (RJ)
22:15	.....	Cairo (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Tuesday rates

Local sell/buy rates in ffs	
Belgian franc	88.9 / 89.6
Dutch guilder	163.5 / 165.2
French franc	55.2 / 55.7
Italian lira	25.4 / 25.7
Japanese yen (for 100)	234.7 / 236.9
Swedish crown	52.7 / 53.2
Swiss franc	224.2 / 226.9
U.K. sterling pound	552.6 / 556.9
U.S. dollar	330.2 / 332.9
W. German mark	184.7 / 186.3

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

08:00	.....	Cairo, London (BA)
08:30	.....	Larousse, Zurich (SR)
09:25	.....	Tripoli (PK)
10:35	.....	Rome (AZ)
13:00	.....	Damascus (Y)
13:50	.....	Cairo (MS)
15:00	.....	Doha, Muscat (GF)
15:35	.....	Kuwait (K)
16:45	.....	Kuwait (L)
17:00	.....	Sana'a (Y)
17:40	.....	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
18:30	.....	Baghdad (IA)
00:50	.....	Karachi (PK)

PRAYER TIMES

04:47	.....	Fajr
05:37	.....	(Sunrise) Dhu'a
12:32	.....	Dhuhr
16:12	.....	'Asr
19:20	.....	Maghrib
20:57	.....	Isha

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected. Light and variable winds will become easterly moderate. In Agaba winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Amman	Min/Max. temp.
Agaba	10 / 29
Deserts	18 / 32
Jordan Valley	8 / 30
	14 / 31

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 25, Agaba 30. Humidity readings: Amman 15 per cent, Agaba 26 per cent.

King congratulates history-making doctors

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received gynaecologist Zaid Al Keilani and hematologist Abdullah Oweidi Al Abadi and congratulated them for their recent medical achievements in the area of test-tube babies and bone-marrow transplants, respectively.

The doctors carried out Jordan's first ever test-tube operation and bone-marrow transplants during the past two weeks.

The King, who received the two veterans at the Royal Court, hours before his departure for Cairo, wished the two doctors the best of luck in their efforts to develop the status of medical services in the Kingdom.

Dr. Keilani, who headed a

team of doctors for work on Jordan's first test-tube babies project two years ago, successfully supervised the birth of four test-tube babies born to two Jordanian women recently.

Three out of the four babies survived and are in normal condition, while one died 14 hours after the operation due to general weakness in his health.

Dr. Oweidi supervised a team of eight medical surgeons during Jordan's two bone-marrow transplants which were carried out successfully on two Jordanian citizens. Both patients are reported to be in stable condition, according to medical sources from the University of Jordan Hospital.



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday receives Dr. Zaid Al Keilani (left), who supervised the first successful test-tube birth in Jordan, and Dr. Abdullah Oweidi Al Abadi, who performed the first successful bone-marrow transplant in the Kingdom, to congratulate the two doctors on their achievements (Petra photo)

Jordan to resume flights to Beirut

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's national carrier, Royal Jordanian (RJ) has decided to resume flights to Lebanon, suspended for two years, but resumption "is contingent" on guarantees of security at Beirut Airport and the safety of the passengers and aircraft, a spokesman for the airline said on Tuesday.

RJ will start operating its Amman-Beirut-Amman route only after "we are 100 per cent sure" of all the safety factors involved in the service, said the spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Jordanian airline ceased its Beirut service after Lebanese Shi'ite gunmen destroyed an RJ Boeing 727 aircraft with explosives and bombs on the airport tarmac on June 12, 1985.

The spokesman, however, could not give a definite date for the first scheduled RJ flight bound for Beirut. "This decision would be announced as soon as we complete a thorough evaluation of the issue."

While RJ stopped its flights to Beirut, Lebanon's Middle East Airlines (MEA) maintained its Beirut-Amman-Beirut link with four flights a week until the airport was closed down due to the deteriorating situation there.

Beirut's International Airport re-opened on Monday following a 98-day stoppage.

RSS to exchange experts with West Asian institute

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Dr. Jawad Al Anani returned to Amman Tuesday after a two-day visit to Iraq where he signed a protocol in cooperation between the RSS and the Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia (ECSCWA).

Dr. Anani said in a statement that ECSCWA was established by the United Nations General Assembly as a way of promoting the social and economic development of countries in the region.

The new protocol provides for such cooperation and coordination and also research work in this field.

The protocol provides for an exchange of expertise between the two sides, visits by experts, officials and researchers, and holding joint seminars, training courses and conferences that are aimed at promoting economic and social development, Dr. Anani said.

He said also that the two sides will cooperate in developing

MEA suspended its flights on all routes on Feb. 1, when insurance companies withdrew passenger coverage after artillery shells struck the airport. The main rightist "Lebanese Forces" militia warned MEA not to use the runways.

Resumption of MEA flights followed agreements by insurers last Friday to restore coverage of the airline's passengers.

MEA Vice President Assad Khourshid was quoted by Reuters on Tuesday as saying that MEA insurers were charging the company an extra \$150 per passenger, forcing it to postpone resuming flights on short routes where the surcharge exceeds the fare.

He said departing passengers would be charged an extra \$86 while arriving passengers would have to pay \$100. MEA would absorb the rest of the surcharge.

Contacted by telephone, a spokeswoman for MEA's Amman office could not give a date for the arrival of the airline's first flight to Amman. But she said it was more likely that MEA's first arrival in Amman would be this Monday.

This will depend on "whether the airline reaches another agreement with its insurers over the surcharge and the fare of short routes," she said.

She added that MEA will continue operating its four-flights-a-week schedule during the peak season and might reduce the number of flights to three per week during winter.

Queen opens Friends of Children Club's book and craft exhibition

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday led scores of children for the opening ceremony of an exhibition on children's books and art work.

During the opening ceremony, Her Majesty Queen Noor inspected various items on display and attended the Arabic puppet show performed by members of the Friends of the Children Club (FCC).

She also toured the site at the park where a new children's theatre will soon be built.

On display were Arabic and English fairy tales, art and coloring books, dictionaries, and historical stories at the exhibition held at Jabal Luweibdeh's park on Tuesday. The exhibition includes books, on such subjects as mountains, forests, planes, space, electricity, diet and nutrition, and also a display of art work and handicrafts made by Jordanian children. All, including the children's crafts, are available for purchase.

The idea behind the children's books and crafts fair is to "promote reading and introduce children to new books, and in order to develop their artistic capabilities and manual dexterity, and to encourage them to develop hobbies in the area of the arts and crafts," according to an information leaflet obtained from the FCC.

The exhibition includes a large variety of more than 1,500 children's books and adult books on child development. It also includes children's creations of handicrafts, such as colorful ceramic souvenirs, plastic beads, glass and wood paintings, miniature models, glass and copper engravings, fabric painting and stuffed dolls. Educational toys and games in Arabic and English are also on display.

The fair, open to the public until May 18, also contains screening of children's films and cartoons, story readings, and puppet shows in Arabic and English.

The Arabic show, "The Story-Teller and his Strange Donkey," which was performed at the opening ceremony, shows daily at 10 a.m., 4:30 and 8 p.m., during the fair. The English puppet show, "The Witch and the Dancing Bells," is performed at 11 a.m., and 5 p.m. (entrance fee for each show is 500 fils). The fair is open from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and from 4-8 p.m.

In interviews with the Jordan Times, several children, who made the art work displayed, expressed their pride at their creations. They said they were happy being members of the FCC because they have learned artwork. "I knew how to play with clay before, but now I know how to make nice things," said one boy. Many of the children who attended the opening seemed to be excited at what they saw. One little girl was telling her



Her Majesty Queen Noor attends the opening of the Friends of Children Club's (FCC) book and crafts fair held at Jabal Luweibdeh park on Tuesday (Petra photo)

mother she wanted to "come here everyday."

Work of FCC

The FCC, established in 1975 to help children develop their artistic talents and potentials, holds various programmes involving children and parents.

In order to achieve a FCC aim to promote public awareness of children's problems and needs in the educational, cultural, social and entertainment fields, the club's activities are numerous and various. There are regular seminars on child development. Cooperating with different institutions to improve services offered to children in Jordan, and organising children's courses in fine arts, theatre, reading and publishing books on child growth, are some of the methods used by the FCC to achieve its aim.

The FCC also supplies songs, and play scripts to schools, encourages children's libraries in educational institutions, and plants trees in children's forests (with cooperation from the Ministry of Agriculture). The club also cooperates with media institutions to produce children's programmes, and with official parties to establish children's cultural centres.

Furthermore, in order to achieve another FCC aim — to encourage children's cultural, social and artistic development — the club organises regular courses on promoting reading and courses on art for children. The club also organises sports activities, work camps, and voluntary outdoor activities. In addition, the FCC encourages children's educational theatre, and presents plays and festivals to other children and parents.

Blueprints for a new children's theatre in Jabal Luweibdeh's park are ready, and digging will begin next month, according to the architect, Mr. Jafa Toukan. He told the Jordan Times that the theatre, which will seat 150 to 200 people, will be built underground. "We don't want to ruin the greenery of the park by building something on top," Mr. Toukan said.

Blueprints for a new children's theatre in Jabal Luweibdeh's park are ready, and digging will begin next month, according to the architect, Mr. Jafa Toukan. He told the Jordan Times that the theatre, which will seat 150 to 200 people, will be built underground. "We don't want to ruin the greenery of the park by building something on top," Mr. Toukan said.

King and Mubarak review efforts

(Continued from page 1)

ra, said before the King left Amman that his talks with Mr. Mubarak would aim at reaching a joint Arab policy on convening the proposed international conference.

Egypt's Information Minister Sawfat Sharif told reporters after the first round of talks between the King and Mr. Mubarak that the meeting came within the framework of consultations and continued coordination between the two leaders as well as an emphasis on the strong bonds between the two countries. Mr. Sharif said the talks covered the latest developments in the international arena and the Arab and Palestinian scenes as well as efforts exerted by both countries in search for convening the proposed conference.

The meetings were attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Armed Forces Commander-

in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

The Egyptian side was represented by Prime Minister Atef Sedki, Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazaleh, Foreign Minister Esam Abdul Meguid, Minister of Agriculture Yusef Wali, Minister of Information Sharif and Dr. Osama Al Baz, director of the president's political affairs office.

The King and the delegation accompanying him returned home later Tuesday.

According to a report released on Monday by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, all members of the Security Council now favour the idea of an international conference on the Mideast.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that "in contrast with the experience of recent years, none of the council members opposed in principle the idea of an international conference under United Nations auspices."

Prince Hassan stops in Ma'an on national tour of educational system

MA'AN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday paid a visit to Ma'an Governorate in south Jordan in the course of his regional tour of the country in order to discuss means of developing the Jordanian educational system.

In an address to a meeting of officials, educators and teachers, Prince Hassan described his tour as part of a process designed to pave the way for an overall assessment of the educational system in the Kingdom in cooperation with the concerned parties.

Prince Hassan said that educators ought to work towards deepening the values and concepts of the young, enhancing their sense of national belonging, and better linking education with the needs of development, the community and the labour market.

Jordan's march towards development commenced with the Great Arab Revolt at the turn of the century, and therefore, it is important that the Jordanian youth be taught about the revolt's principles in order to help fulfil its objectives, Prince Hassan pointed out.

He said that the management of a sound educational process requires attention to research, analysis and sound scientific principles, coupled with dialogue and seminars that focus attention on social and humanitarian issues.

Jordan, which has a unique central geographical location in the Arab World, should focus its attention on developing manpower. This calls for a greater deal of skill, Prince Hassan noted.

The local community, he added, ought to contribute towards this endeavour and towards the establishment of a sound educational system.

World Bank report

Referring to the country's economic and social standards, Prince Hassan said that he was delighted to read a World Bank report which revealed that Jordan, along with the United Arab Emirates, was among the world's fastest growing economies that have realised high economic growth. Jordan's national economy grew at the rate of 8.9 per cent annually. The per capita income in the Kingdom rose to the \$2,200 per cent, thus occupying sixth place among world nations, Prince Hassan noted.

He said that the report indicates that the per capita income in Jordan is below the country's

rate of economic growth and this is due largely to the increase in population.

The World Bank's report places Jordan at the top of the world list in terms of fertility rate, except for Africa. The annual increase in birth is at 7.4 children (for each woman (according to 1984 figures), up from 7.3 children per woman (according to 1970 figures), Prince Hassan said.

It is well known, he said, that a society with a high economic and social standard should have a decreasing rate of fertility. But in Jordan, the fertility is very high and is indeed swallowing up the national economy, with the result that the per capita income has declined compared to the 1984 figures and could still decline further if the present trend in population growth continues.

At the outset of the meeting, Mr. Mohammad Khattab, director of education in Ma'an, made a speech outlining the educational situation in Ma'an Governorate, where, he said, there are 45 primary schools, 52 preparatory schools and 15 secondary schools, offering education to 14,000 students.

Prince Hassan started the tour with inspection visits to Ma'an schools and laboratories. He was accompanied by Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi and other ministry officials.

Jordan and Iraq discuss religious issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Iraq Tuesday opened talks to promote their bilateral cooperation in religious affairs, propagating Islamic religion, and teaching the subject at the two countries' schools and religious centres.

The talks are being conducted by Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, and his Iraqi counterpart Abdullah Fadel Abbas who arrived in Amman Monday evening

on a visit to Jordan expected to last several days.

Dr. Khayyat, speaking at the session, said that joint meetings should bolster cooperation among Islamic states.

He also reviewed measures which the Jordanian government is now taking for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab people and preserving Islamic holy places, especially the Al Aqsa Mosque, and the Dome of the

Holy Rock in occupied Arab Jerusalem.

Jordan's measures in this concern, he said, have aborted Israel's attempts aimed at dominating holy and religious places and confiscating Islamic property in the occupied territory. But, he said, Israel is continuing its repressive measures against the Arab population in general and its violation of the sanctity of religious places.

Jordan to send first Arab team to Special Olympics for Mentally Handicapped

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

"God, please makes me one of the winners, or give me the strength to at least try." This is the oath that participants in the Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped take every four years. This year, nine Jordanian players will be taking the same oath.

The Special Olympics, which will be held in Nottetdam University, Indiana, in August 1987, will be attended by seventy countries from all over the world. For the first time this year, an Arab team is participating.

Through the work of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped, and with the guidance of Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ibn Zaid, the president of the federation, a special committee was established last year under the name, the Jordanian Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped.

Dr. Yaser Salem, the president of the special committee and general director of the Nazeek Al Hariri Special Education Centre, told the Jordan Times that "winning or losing is not the object," the idea is to "cultivate the children's social, psychological and physical abilities," he said.

A team of 9 children chosen from five different centres for the mentally handicapped will be participating in the 50 metres, 100 metres, 200 metres track events, long jump and shotput.

Iman Hamdi Salam, sports coach for the mentally handicapped at Nazeek Al Hariri Centre and a member of the Jordanian Special Olympics committee, said the children understand that they will be competing and are very excited about their participation in the forthcoming Special Olympics. The children train both at the centre during regular sports classes and every Wednesday morning at the University of Jordan.

The principal aim of the Jordanian Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped is to encourage sport competitions among the different centres for the mentally handicapped. The six member committee hopes that these competitions will help the children become productive members of society and learn how to interact with people. The families of the handicapped are better able to accept their children's handicap by realising their children's strength of spirit and individual skills.

The Special Olympics commit-



Girls race in one of the events at Jordan's Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped held at the University of Jordan Stadium on April 25, 1987. The Jordanian team will be the first Arab

country to compete in the international Special Olympics to be held at Nottetdam University in Indiana, in August of this year.

tee has already organised activities, in co-ordination with Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped, in Jordan. There were two week long training camps in Karak and Aqaba last year.

"They were both very successful and very important experiences for us. Now we can anticipate the type of responsibility we will have to take upon ourselves in the trip to the United States," Dr. Salem said.

According to him, only five out of 15 education centres for the mentally handicapped in Jordan are participating in this programme. He cites as reasons for the low participation rate either the lack of funds or difficulty of arranging transport for centres outside Amman. The special committee hopes to be able to include these centres in later programmes.

Levels of mental disabilities

Mental retardation was identified by Dr. Salem as having the symptom of underdevelopment of mental capabilities when compared with the actual age of the child. Science has yet to find a way to cure this problem; so far, all that science has been able to achieve are ways of helping and caring for those afflicted.

According to Dr. Salem, there are four levels of mental disability. The first is the profound

stage, which is severe and causes multiple handicaps. These cases require attention 24 hours a day and are usually not handled by education centres since there is no way to help.

The second stage is called the severe stage in which the handicapped could be taught basic self-care training, such as using the bathroom. These also can never be independent.

The third stage is called the moderate stage in which those suffering from a mental handicap are trainable and can be taught to take care of themselves and can also learn handicrafts such as carpentry.

The fourth and least severe stage of mental retardation is the mild stage. The handicapped in this stage are capable of learning, and, with adequate attention and individual daily training, these people could be taught to write, read and do math. Their only handicap is that they would be very slow learners.

"Most of the cases we deal with are the mild and moderate ones," Dr. Salem said.

Need for private sector initiative

Statistics show the existence of 35,000 handicapped cases, both mental and physical, in the country. These people according to Dr. Salem, should not be the government's responsibility

alone. He said that the private sector is needed to further complement the government's efforts. Dr. Salem added that there is a genuine need for more specialists, qualified teachers, classroom materials and centres to provide services for the handicapped.

"What has happened in Jordan so far is only a small step in providing for all the handicapped," Dr. Salem said. "We are truly moving forward in servicing the handicapped, but we must not forget that it takes a universal effort and cooperation for our efforts to be a true success."

The fifteen centres for the mentally handicapped only cover 10 per cent of the mentally handicapped in Jordan. "We have a very long waiting list," Dr. Salem added that "it is important to extend the existing services to all those who need them within the Amman district or the suburbs and rural areas."

Unis Kennedy Shriver, echoing the thoughts of her brother, the late American President John Kennedy, said at the founding of the Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped in 1968:

"Poverty, war and persecution in the world has ruined peoples' dreams, but with creativity and strength of spirit, these dreams are being realised through the Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped."

Shamir vows to reject conference

(Continued from page 1)

His message reaffirmed a 12-year-old U.S. commitment not to enter contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) unless they renounce "terrorism" and publicly accept U.N. resolutions implicitly recognising Israel.

Mr. Shultz wrote that he understood Israeli conditions for a Soviet presence at any conference: the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel and increased Soviet Jewish emigration.

Mr. Peres' departure for Washington after the inner cabinet meeting Wednesday, now appeared set after several days of doubt, officials said.

On Monday, the United States declined to publicly take sides in the Israeli government's dispute.

Asked by reporters if Mr. Peres had U.S. support in his efforts to bring about the conference, State Department spokesman Charles Redman declined to give a direct answer.

Asked if Washington was neutral in the debate, he said: "We're consulting both continuously and closely with both Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres on a wide range of regional issues that includes the peace process."

He said Washington wanted peace in the region and was convinced this could be achieved through direct bilateral negotiations.

"What we're willing to explore is the role that an international conference might play in bringing about direct face-to-face bilateral negotiations and which would not interfere with those negotiations," he said.

A U.S. official who asked not to be identified told Reuters that Mr. Peres felt the United States had not given him the public support he needs to call new elections. This was a deliberate U.S. posture, the official said.

While U.S. policy on a peace conference was closer to Mr. Peres than to Mr. Shamir, "we are not prepared to force the government to fall because that's our policy," the official said.

Redman left open the possibility that the director general of Mr. Shamir's office, Yossi Ben-Aharon, might meet Mr. Shultz this week.

Mr. Peres said Tuesday that the major obstacle in the way of an international conference was Israel's lack of diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union and China.

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Time for new course

RAMADAN is the month in which Muslims renew once again their pledge to submit themselves totally and unreservedly to the Will of God. It is a month for reflection and dedication. Will strengthened by daylong abstinence and souls purified by nights spent in prayers, they turn to God to repent their lapses in the past and vow to order their futures in such a way as to win God's pleasure.

It is proper that Ramadan should have been designated as a time for renewal of the pledge. It was the month in which "Was sent down the Koran, as a guide to mankind, also clear (Signs) for guidance and Criterion for judgment (between right and wrong)." Beginning with the first of the revelations, which was sent down on a "Blessed Night" of Ramadan, the Koran gave mankind a philosophy and code of life, in accordance with whose commands and prohibitions Muslims are enjoined to order their lives.

When fasting was made one of the Pillars of the Faith — "O ye who believe, fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that ye may fear God and (learn) self-restraint" — the aim was not that the believers should subject their bodies to torture. Islam does not subscribe to the theory common to so many other philosophies that there is inherent virtue in punishing the body. The needs and passions man is heir to are not evils to be suppressed or exorcised, but are what God, in His infinite Wisdom, wove into the human physique and psyche as a part of His Grand Design. Those passions are not to be denied but restrained. Abstinence from food and drink is only one aspect of a comprehensive scheme of training designed to strengthen the moral fibre of the believer and to teach him to be restrained in his passions and actions.

"And for such as had entertained the fear of standing before their Lord's (tribunal) and had restrained (their) soul from lower desires; their abode will be the Garden (of Bliss)."

Muslims of this generation live in times when the need to restrain their lower desires is more pressing and vital than ever before. Barring a few honourable exceptions, our leaders and rulers, whose thoughts and actions have arbitrary power over our present and future, are men who have allowed their lower desires to triumph over "the fear of standing before their Lord's tribunal," and their pursuit of power and personal glory has brought death, damnation and shame on the nation of Islam.

We have strayed far from the course charted for us by the Book sent down to us on that "Blessed Night" in Ramadan. Ramadan gives us an opportunity to correct our course and choose that path which will lead us to God's Mercy — Arab News, Jeddah.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Hopes for Gulf peace

THROUGHOUT the past years of the Iran-Iraq war, Jordan has supported every endeavour for ending the conflict, and will continue to do so with the hope of ending the bloodshed and enabling the two neighbours to live in peace. Jordan believes that this is being fuelled by the enemies of the Arab Nation and Islam, and Arabs and Muslims are paying the price. Therefore, Jordan will appreciate Richard Murphy's tour in the Gulf if it is aimed at achieving genuine peace in that area. But we find it rather hard to believe that this mission would succeed in view of the new revelations about the U.S. arms deal with Iran, and due to the biased attitude of the U.S. administration. Washington has not yet supported its words with actions, and has not taken any steps to actually show the Arabs that Iran would not be supplied with fresh U.S. weapons. We do wish Murphy success in his mission of bringing peace nearer, but any success is closely connected with policies adopted by Washington towards the Arabs and the issues of their region like the Middle East question, and security in the Gulf and also other parts of the world. Unless basic changes in these policies are made, Murphy's mission would be simply an abortive attempt for improving America's image. Unless real changes happen, Washington will remain to be considered as a power that does not give any regard to lives and the interests of other nations but is bent only on protecting its own selfish interests.

Al Dustour: Peres buys time

AS expected, the outcome of the Israeli cabinet meeting showed that Israel will continue to carry on with diplomatic manoeuvres simply to gain time and to short the international community's conception of an international Middle East peace conference. Despite the accusations and counter accusations by the two parties that form the present coalition government in Israel about options for dealing with the Arabs, everybody can see that their leaders and the Zionist movement at large continue to refuse the principle of swapping land for peace as provided for by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242. Although the leaders of the two parties, Shamir and Peres have decided Wednesday as the final date for deciding on whether to opt for the international conference or seek early elections, all signs indicate that Peres, who now appears as a staunch supporter of the conference's idea, is trying to gain more time to secure his domination of government affairs and secure the upper hand in all external and internal issues. We believe that the tug-of-war game will continue in Israel until both parties agree on a proper means for blowing up the proposed conference.

Sawt Al Shaab: Isolated Israel

A visit by Belgian foreign minister to Israel must have caused an embarrassment for the Israeli leaders because he had gone there to underline the European Community's ideas of establishing peace in the Middle East through an international conference. The heads of the Israeli government do not accept this idea because they are bent on implementing the objectives of the Zionist movement, seeking expansion through aggression. The Jewish state was built on violence and came into being at the expense of the Arab people's sufferings, and has continued to exist through aggression and colonialism, and above all through total rejection of peace. Therefore, any Israeli statements about peace should be regarded as falsehoods, because this Jewish state cannot abandon the course of aggression and seek peace instead. However, Israel now feels totally isolated and surrounded by countries of the world and the United Nations secretary-general, who are all demanding an international conference to bring peace to the Middle East.

The following article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

"GREETINGS," said the man, eyeing the audience of about 200 that had gathered at Al Hakawati Theatre in East Jerusalem. "My name is Mohammad Yusuf Suleiman, and I ... 'Not that way,' the younger fellow standing next to him whispered. 'Over there!' Without blinking Mohammad made half a turn and, addressing the empty table on the stage, started again. 'Greetings. My name is Mohammad Yusuf Suleiman, and I want to know why your wife's application for family reunion has been rejected.' Receiving no response from the empty table, he proceeded to recount the story of his broken family.

Mohammad was only one of many Palestinians attending a public meeting on the issue of family reunification last January. Having received no response to his request for a public encounter with the Israeli authorities, the newly formed Committee for Family Reunion was forced to direct its questions, at the name-cards of the officials who had spurned the invitations to attend: Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the heads of the "civilian administration" of the West Bank and Gaza, and the officers in charge of internal affairs in the occupied territories.

"My wife lives in the U.S. and is able to visit me only one month every six months," a man from

Gaza said. His story is typical. Jamal Barghouti, a resident of Bethlehem who chairs the new committee, is only rarely able to be with his Russian wife, Galina, who must stay with Jamal's relatives in Amman as long as her request for family reunification has not been granted by the Israeli authorities. Given current trends, there is not much hope that she will ever receive a residence permit for the West Bank.

The problem of the reunification of Palestinian families is enormous.

The problem of reunification of Palestinian families is enormous. The New York Times reported in January 1986 that the Israeli military authorities had granted only 300 permits for family reunification in 1985. There are no precise figures for the number of applications, but lawyers involved in the issue say that they may run in the thousands. Some families have waited for five years or longer without even a response from the authorities, all the while suffering the pain of living separated lives.

Amira, a young Palestinian woman who holds a Jordanian passport, explained that she had married a resident of the Gaza Strip, but that she had not been granted a residence permit for

Gaza. According to standing regulations, she can now enter Israel and the occupied territories once every six months for a period of one month. Last year she gave birth while visiting her husband in Gaza, but the baby was not given an identity number by the Israeli authorities. Amira has in fact applied several times for her baby to be granted residency in Gaza — so far without success. Israeli officials at the bridge leading to Jordan have told her to continue submitting applications. Amira has also been unable to register her baby in Jordan because the father, after all, is a resident of Gaza. "How can I continue like this?" She queried. "Why don't the Israelis grant my request for family reunion?" And then, staring at the empty space in front of her. "My marriage has been a marriage by correspondence!"

Felicia Langer, an Israeli lawyer who has been active on behalf of Palestinians, has repeatedly stated her frustrations in obtaining family reunification through the courts. She said that all recent cases brought before the Israeli High Court have been flatly rejected. In the most recent case, Langer had submitted to the court the learned opinions of two authorities in international law, Ian Brownlie of Oxford University, and Diana Shelton of Santa Clara University in California. Both unambiguously stated that the Israeli authorities cannot, according to international law, deny Palestinian residents the right to be reunited with family members or spouses who are living abroad.

The court considered the case, and rejected it. This decision, explained Lea Tsemel, another Israeli lawyer activist, made Palestinians affected by the policy realise that there is no longer any point in trying to obtain family reunifications through legal procedure. They concluded that the only remaining avenue would be pressure on the authorities through concerted public action. So on 27 December 1986, a group of Palestinians, assisted by two lawyers, formed a committee to pursue alternative paths of action.

One of the grievances most frequently voiced by committee members concerns the right of every Jew, regardless of his or her nationality, to move to Palestine and become a citizen of the state, while Palestinians who are living outside their homeland for short periods of time are systematically denied their right to return.

"Why is it," one speaker at the meeting asked, "that a Jew can return to Palestine on the basis of the argument that Jews lived here 2,000 years ago, whereas any Palestinian who has gone abroad may find that he has lost his right of residency after an absence of only one or two years?"

In spite of this new activist spirit, few Palestinians expect a speedy reversal of the policy. The Israeli authorities have a vested interest in reducing the popula-

tion level in the occupied territories, an interest safeguarded by a variety of means. One tactic has been to put the economic squeeze on Palestinian residents of the territories through such measures as the imposition of exorbitant value-added and income taxes. Another has been to prevent those who choose to leave, even temporarily, from returning, or at least to make it very difficult for them to rejoin home and family. "It is clear," the committee declares in a background paper, "that the discrimination applied

The Israeli authorities have a vested interest in reducing the population level of the occupied territories.

by the military authorities implements a policy decision that aims to control the population of the occupied territories. People are not allowed to settle in the occupied territories, and are in fact encouraged to emigrate. The restrictions imposed on the spouses who are not residents are quite unbearable, especially so if children are involved. The fact that any Jew is entitled to enter Israel on demand is in stark contrast to the situation suffered by the Palestinian of the occupied territories wishing to live with his whole family a full 12 months a year.

One of the committee's de-

mands is to be informed what the exact criteria for granting or denying family reunification are. Palestinians have voiced suspicions that the authorities routinely use their power in this matter to try to induce families seeking reunification to collaborate. Hatem, a young resident of Gaza, related that he had married an Egyptian woman a few years ago. So far she has been denied the right to be with him in Gaza more than once every six months. Hatem, in turn, is treated as a foreigner in Egypt. Repeated requests to the authorities to be granted family reunification have been turned down without reason. "But," said Hatem, fighting back his tears, "when I went in to submit my application, they told me that they would consider my request only if I agreed to work with them." Other Palestinians have reported similar tactics of intimidation. Another popular tactic of the authorities is to force Palestinians to work through collaborators. Thus many have paid large sums of money to middlemen who are seen as traitors; simply to be granted the right to be with their families — a human right accorded unequivocally by international law.

Perhaps the theatrics of the January 24 meeting at Al Hakawati best reflect the unfortunate reality that the broken lives of those who must remain separate, and the Palestinian predicament of dispersion, in general, fall squarely in the realm of theatre: the theatre of the absurd.

Despite controversy, Central American militarisation quickens

By Bernd Debusmann

MEXICO CITY — Central America, long a region of record military growth, is again the focus of an escalated arms build-up by the superpowers with the projected delivery of modern U.S. combat planes to Honduras.

Officials in Honduras have recently said the Reagan administration planned to deliver the first two of 12 F-5 tactical fighter jets in October, another two before the end of the year and the remainder in 1988.

No such timetable was confirmed in Washington but U.S. press reports quoted government sources as saying a request for approval of the \$72 million aircraft deal would be sent to Congress this week.

The highly manoeuvrable F-5s are scheduled to replace French-built Super Mysteres which were refurbished by the Israelis and sold to Honduras in 1977.

European and Latin diplomats in the region said the planned delivery had the potential of kicking off the most serious escalation to date of what has been an unprecedented arms build-up in Central America.

Disclosures on the F-5 deal coincided with two developments which highlighted Washington's ever-growing military involvement in Central America despite considerable controversy over U.S. policy in the region:

— In Guatemala, three U.S. CH-47 Chinook helicopters with U.S. crews ferried some 300 Guatemalan troops to an area where left-wing guerrillas are active. Announced by the Pentagon, the operation was the first officially-acknowledged U.S. involvement in the rebel conflict in Guatemala, where insurgents have been battling a succession of governments for 25 years.

The biggest U.S. war games ever held in Central America and the Caribbean, codenamed Solid Shield, have been underway since April 25 and will climax in Honduras soon with an amphibious landing of almost 10,000 U.S. troops acting out a scenario providing for a request for assistance from Honduras against an attack

from Nicaragua.

Such moves have deepened Latin American misgivings about what many governments see as a consistent U.S. emphasis on military solutions to the region's problems at the expense of diplomatic efforts.

President Jose Sarney of Brazil recently said: "Latin America, in part as a reaction to U.S. policy itself, is beginning to nurture anti-American feelings where they had not existed before. When problems arise, Washington's concern is security, its solution military."

Brazil is one of eight Latin nations involved in the "Contadora" initiative, a diplomatic effort named after the Panamanian island where the movement's four founder-members first met.

Statistics compiled by military experts in Central America and the authoritative London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies indicate that supplies from the United States and the Soviet Union have turned Central America into the area with the world's highest rate of military growth.

When President Reagan declared in 1981 he would "draw the line against Communism" in Central America, the six Spanish-speaking republics of the area had regular armed forces totalling just under 60,000. Insurgent groups were estimated at around 6,700.

Today, regular forces total almost 200,000 and irregular groups about 35,000, a more than threefold increase in the number of men under arms in less than six years. No other area, not even the Middle East, has experienced such a dramatic process of militarisation, according to military experts.

The build-up began following the 1979 overthrow of U.S.-backed Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza in a broad-based revolution led by leftist Sandinista rebels who are now running Nicaragua.

The U.S. soon accused them of being instruments of the Soviet Union and of trying to export left-wing revolution throughout Central America.

Britons have clear three-way choice in June election

By Brian Mooney

Reuter

LONDON — Voters have three clear choices in national elections in Britain on June 11:

A third term of free enterprise Thatcherism designed to kill off British Socialism, a return to the left-wing values and state interventionism of Labour, or a revival of consensus politics under the untested centrist alliance.

One other permutation — a hung parliament in which no party commands an overall majority — would produce a watered-down blend in a coalition government.

This time the electorate may decide the fate of parties and politicians as well as their policies.

If the Conservatives fail, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, 61, will almost certainly be dumped. Her Conservative Party has traditionally dealt ruthlessly with losers.

If Labour leader Neil Kinnock loses, he may also be out of a job and his party could slip over the precipice where it has clung since it was first beaten by Thatcher in 1979 after lengthy spells of power in the 1960s and 70s.

The Labour Party has modernised and reshaped under Kinnock, 45, and its policies are essentially moderate. But it has failed to shake off an electorally-damaging far left and is disunited.

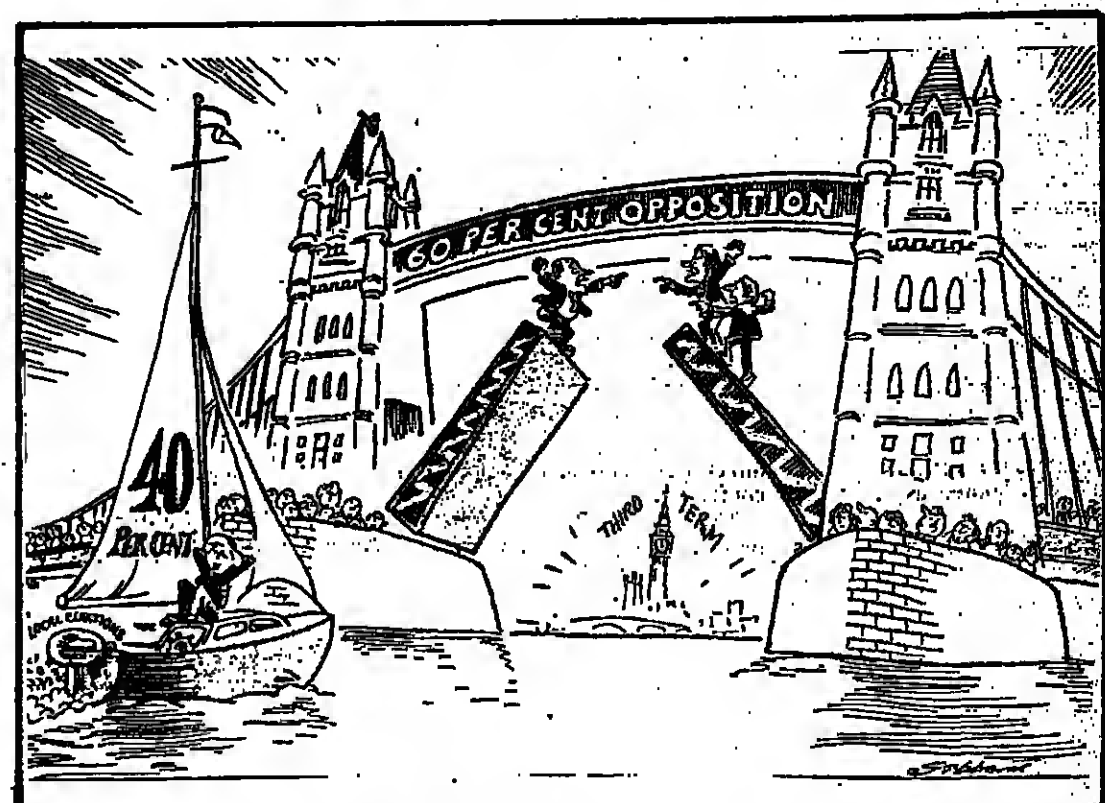
Some commentators say the six-year-old alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats is poised to replace Labour as the main opposition but others believe Britain's winner-takes-all voting system makes an alliance break-through improbable.

Thatcher is a known quantity — a hard-nosed, no-nonsense matron who evokes extremes of deep respect and fierce antagonism. She is greatly respected abroad.

Kinnock has never held elected office. He has an engaging manner, charm and zeal and believes passionately that his style of caring politics is in tune with the country's needs.

The ideological battle lines of the election are defined by sharp differences between Conservatives and Labourites on almost all issues.

Thatcher's Conservatives aim to reduce further the role of the state, reinforcing their instinctive belief that market forces should



control people's lives rather than governments.

Labour, on the other hand, proclaims a stronger role for the state and wants to give trade unions back some of the influence they have lost under Thatcher.

It favours a mixed economy but advocates increased public spending, higher taxation and more welfare provisions.

The Conservative vision is of a leaner, tougher country, where people are geared to competition and less coddled by the welfare cushion built into the system since World War II.

Labour says this is a recipe for a divided society with a permanent under-class. Kinnock believes it will mean a nation where "if you can't pay your way, you'll have to stay away."

The Conservative-Labour divide cuts deep into defence. Labour wants to go non-nuclear. It is pledged to decommission Britain's Polaris nuclear deterrent and cancel plans to replace it with the U.S. Trident system.

Labour says it will also negotiate withdrawal of all American nuclear weapons based in Britain but insists that it would keep Britain a loyal member of the NATO alliance. The money

saved on scrapping nuclear weapons would be spent beefing up conventional forces.

The Conservatives say Labour's defence policy would destabilise NATO and weaken the West's hand in disarmament negotiations with Moscow.

The alliance has compromised on defence by pledging to scrap Trident but keep the ageing Polaris system in the hope it can be negotiated away.

British membership of NATO and the European Community (EC) are unchallenged. All parties have also signalled readiness for full British membership of the European Monetary System (EMS).

Labour and the alliance say they want to break the deadlock with Argentina over the disputed Falkland Islands by unconditional talks with Buenos Aires.

Thatcher, who went to war in 1982 to recover the Falklands from an occupying Argentine force, says she will not talk to the Argentines as long as they insist on discussing sovereignty.

At home, Labour promises to slash unemployment by one million within two years of taking office. The alliance has set the same target over three years.

The number of jobless has tri-

pled since Thatcher came to power eight years ago — although now falling — still stands at about 3.1 million, 11 per cent of the workforce.

The Conservatives argue that the 89 per cent in work are better off and insist that responsibility for jobs lies primarily with industry and business.

Labour says it will create the new jobs with £6 billion (\$10 billion) found by reversing Conservative tax cuts and increasing government borrowing.

It also plans a crash £3.6 billion (\$6 billion) programme to boost pension and welfare benefits, financed by taxing the richest five per cent of the population.

Labour is committed to reversing most of Thatcher's denationalisation programme under which she has reduced the state sector of the economy by 40 per cent.

The conservatives say Labour's plans will require a massive increase in public spending and trigger a financial crisis.

If the Conservatives win, they will radically restructure local government and continue denationalising, leaving only the state health and education services untouched, although both will be overhauled.

The press in U.S.: The once unmentionable now front-page fodder

By W. Dale Nelson

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Franklin Roosevelt had an affair with his wife's social secretary and President John F. Kennedy was known as a lady's man after his marriage. None of it was reported in the press at the time.

But when Gary Hart entertained an attractive Miami model while his wife was away, six days of front-page headlines followed and Hart withdrew as a presidential contender.

The contrast is prompting debate in the journalistic profession over how the standards for reporting on politicians came to change and whether it is a good thing.

The Pulitzer prize-winning Miami Herald, which broke the story in its Sunday edition of May

4, said its scrutiny of Hart was justified while he was a contender for the White House. Many journalists agreed but some called it sensationalism.

"I regard the action of the paper involved in this as inexcusable, tragic and, not to put too fine a point on it, sleazy," said Norman Cousins, former editor of Saturday Review, a former chairman of the Pulitzer prize committee and now a professor at the UCLA Medical School in Los Angeles.

"I doubt there is anyone in public life who, at one time or another, would have been able to pass the kind of standard that seems to now be emerging, which is largely a hypocritical standard to begin with," Cousins said in a telephone interview.

"I think we would have been deprived of some of our greatest leaders if the same yardsticks, the

same stakeouts, were applied to that were applied to Gary Hart," he added, saying he believes neither FDR (Roosevelt) nor Kennedy would have survived such reporting and been elected.

Other journalistic veterans also raised questions but on balance took a more favourable view of the reporting by the Herald, which assigned five reporters to stake out Hart's townhouse on May 2 and 3, when 29-year-old Donna Rice visited the former Colorado senator.

"I can think of better uses for five experienced journalists," said Ben Bagdikian, a professor in the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley and former assistant managing editor of the Washington Post.

But Bagdikian said he believes such stories are justified in some

cases, especially when a candidate's own actions have made his personal life a campaign issue.

The New York Times Sunday Magazine had quoted Hart as saying, in response to rumours about his personal life, that reporters were welcome to "follow me around" and, "if anyone wants to put a tail on me, go ahead."

Hart has denied any wrongdoing, and the Herald has accused him of lying.

"If he lies about it in public, the issue isn't what he's doing but that he lied about it," Bagdikian said.

Several journalists criticised the handling of the story by the Herald, which acknowledged, that it left the townhouse unwatched for a few hours and that people could have come in and out of a back door unobserved.

The newspaper unsuccessfully

sought an interview with Ms. Rice on May 3, and declined to delay publication so it could interview her later.

"Some of what they did was a bit crude and not even very efficient," said Reese Cleghorn, dean of the School of Journalism at the University of Maryland... but he added, "I think, contrary to what people say, the Hart episode is an example of the press having a good effect by doing its job."

"As an editor, I would have been unhappy with the way they rushed into print with it because they were afraid they would be scooped," Bagdikian said.

Julius Duseha, a former Washington Post reporter who is now director of the Washington Journalism Centre, noted that Hart, like other politicians, frequently had his family appear with him on the campaign trail.

"If you feel it's all right to use

your family, then your relations with your wife are fair game," he said. "If I were an editor, I probably would have gone with the story."

Bagdikian said he believes he and other reporters in the past went too far in ignoring information about the private lives of politicians, "particularly when it could affect the official's performance in his job, as in cases of heavy drinking."

Bagdikian said he and other journalists knew that Kennedy had extramarital affairs.

As for Roosevelt, not only did he have an affair with Lucy Mercer, but he was not aware of the extent of his paralysis. Newspaper cartoonists of him, in fact, often portrayed him riding horseback, playing football and engaging in other vigorous pursuits.

JOHN, in 1987

Are we a gloomy people?

By Nermes Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

Jordanians are by no means gloomy people by nature. Their serious disposition is the product of overwhelming environmental forces influencing their psyche and shaping their attitudes towards humour and laughter.

This is the consensus of sociologists and psychiatrists, interviewed by the Jordan Times, who blame socio-economic problems, political uncertainties as well as what they describe as "cultural schizophrenia" to be the cause of the apparent state of depression.

The situation, they say, is exacerbated by daily snags that, to varying degrees, hit the average person.

Dr. Abadallah Al Khatib, in a recent column published in the Al Rai newspaper, said that what constitutes a serious disposition is the "tension that covers the faces of the majority of citizens and the exaggerated seriousness expressed in the tone of their voices and violence in their movement and physical expression."

Dr. Sari Nasir, professor of sociology at the University of Jordan, believes that "gloominess" is very relative. "If we compare ourselves to Egyptians we are definitely gloomier," he said. Egyptians have learned to use humour as a means of releasing tension, and to them it has become a way of alleviating tension before it becomes stress. "At a conference I attended in Egypt, one of the foreign speakers arrived late and apologised for the delay citing jet lag," Dr. Nasir recalled, "my immediate reaction was to feel pity for the man, but an Egyptian colleague of mine came out with the funniest comment about timing. It struck me then that we had completely different reactions and that mine was too serious."

According to Dr. Nasir, a sense of humour can only be acquired after we learn to "laugh at ourselves." Jordanians "take themselves so seriously, they don't even dare laugh at themselves," he said.

Bad news

The media, according to Dr. Nasir, "promote a sense of failure... They select the most horrible news and tell you about it." This, he said, "contributes to our serious posture."

"How do you think I feel when television news inform me that the Israeli occupation authorities have confiscated 5,000 more dunums of Arab land? I feel helpless. Why are they telling me? What can I do about it?" Dr. Nasir believes that had news should somehow be offset by positive or good ones.

Jordanians' gloominess could also be the result of permanent inhibitions caused by a desperate attempt by ethnic groups in society to hold on to their traditions coupled with their feeling of uncertainty about the future.

Dr. Nasir pointed out that the majority of the population are originally immigrants or refugees who came to Jordan after they were persecuted in their home countries. He was referring to Palestinians who were evicted in 1948 and 1967 by the Israeli occupation, Syrians by the French colonialists and other minority groups such as Circassians, Armenians and Shishanis.

The groups, he explained, have influenced the overall disposition of Jordanians. "Each group is trying to hold on to its own culture, afraid to assimilate," he said.

Dr. Garabed Zakarian, an Armenian psychiatrist, disagrees on this point as he believes the society's heterogeneity should not reflect negatively on Jordanians. He said that different ethnic groups bring in fresh ideas and new thoughts which if integrated into society create a lively multi-culture. As for refugees who still experience the need to return home, he added, this situation would understandably create a state of stress.

Dr. Ahmad Khalaf, also a psychiatrist, said that by nature, people have an inherent fear of the unknown caused by the prevailing political uncertainties in the region.

Stress also comes as a result of broken family ties, or life-long friendships and the disintegration of the "tribal tent" of protection which is gradually shrinking with the creeping urbanisation and the advent of technology. Subsequently, loneliness and a feeling of loss creep in and people start worrying about the great challenges imposed on them by new realities. "If all this did not depress people, then, there must be something wrong," Dr. Khalaf said.

The sense of insecurity, and the successive defeats in Arab wars with Israel were also cited as a reason for the apparent lack of humour in the Jordanian society.

When Dr. Zakarian was asked whether he believed Jordanians were nervous people, he said: "If you want to know the neurotic state of a nation, drive through its streets, you are immediately struck by the lack of respect for other drivers, their scramble to reach the red lights first and their lack of concern about traffic regulations."

The economic recession is another depressing factor. Dr. Zakarian said that the "imbalance" in personal incomes is causing stress for the poor. He feels that "there is no empathy with the poor."

Social injustice

The feeling of alienation is cited as a direct result of the current state of economic imbalance and injustice felt by the lower stratum in society. A middle class office employee, summarised his views on the subject as follows: "The upper class frowns at the lower class, the lower class grins at the upper class and then the lower class frowns at itself."

The worry over health security was seen by Dr. Zakarian as a stressful and justified concern. "People have no money to go to doctors," he said.

According to Dr. Nawaf Khatib, director of health insurance, at the Ministry of Health, health insurance programmes cover current government employees, the



People in downtown Amman (File photo)

retired and their dependents. The Ministry of Social Development is entrusted to extend this programme to the needy from the rest of the population. The army, as an institution, extends the same services to currently enlisted servicemen, the retired and their dependents. That leaves a large part of the population uncovered.

Young women's dreams of the day when prince charming comes on a white horse to carry them off to a life of settlement, security and contentment, is no longer a guaranteed eventuality. Young men in Jordan are reluctant to make the step towards marriage because of their inability to cope with the huge financial strings attached to it.

The overwhelming flow of information into the society had adverse effects contributing to already existing depressing elements. In the past we had a limited flow of information and people's intake was smaller than that of the younger generation of today. The new trend, psychiatrists say, is towards more knowledge-oriented studies, more cultural synergy and more exposure to the rest of the world.

Lost family ties

Dr. Khalaf, went further to say

that there is a growing feeling of individualism, imported from the West, which is fast becoming a recipe for conflict between the young and the old. As soon as the boy or girl reach the age of 18, independence, which sometimes entails losing their ties with their families, becomes a major goal. This would not have been a problem, says Dr. Khalaf, should young people find security in a new group of friends. However, this is not always the case, and many times, a person is lost without the absence of family ties. "A state of continued anxiousness and edginess grips the individual in question," Dr. Khalaf said.

Summarising the relationship between parents and their children, Dr. Khalaf said that "the parents' list of 'nos' is very long, while the list of 'go aheads' are much shorter."

On the Western culture's influence on the Jordanian society, Dr. Zakarian said "it should not necessarily spell disaster because new ideas brought in from the West could provide new directions which could help in society's development into a better place."

Establishing centres of recreation seems to be the psychiatrists and sociologists agreed-upon

solution for relieving our stress. They also prescribe comedies, theatres and other educational programmes. Dr. Zakarian said, "Changes do not occur overnight. I advise very strongly that we should increase our cultural centres, theatres, books, libraries and highly educational programmes."

Commenting on the psychiatrists' statements, a Jordanian journalist agreed that the problem was partly historical: "For over 600 years we have been frowning at colonialists from the Ottomans to Churchill using the 'not welcome' policy hoping that one day they will clear off. They did, but only after frowning became our habit. Pessimism and scepticism may be the inevitable outcome of our reality but wise men always believed that every day that passes should be well and truly spent and that hearts should always be lifted in gratitude."

At the turn of the century, Elia Madi, a contemporary poet, captured the spirit of this in a poem entitled, "Smile":

"He said the sky is gloomy, and frowned,

"I said smile, suffice the abyss in the sky."

Why there are fewer holes in Cork's roads

By Terry Dodsworth

WHEN a gas pipe repairman starts to dig up a road in most cities, he will probably have only an approximate idea where the electricity mains supply runs, or if there are telephone cables nearby. In many cases, he will also be working with a map which is not entirely up to date, and he could arrive on site to find that the local authority has embarked on major road works without his knowledge.

These are the sort of problems which the U.K. arm of Intergraph, the U.S. computer graphics group, set out to solve recently in the city of Cork in Ireland. Its answer is a computerised database and mapping system which aims to plot the location and precise details of every pipe and cable laid under the ground by a city's main utilities — along with the latest map configurations provided by the Ordnance Survey and details of the city corporation's road and services network.

Intergraph believes that this system has significantly extended the application of digital mapping in the management of utility services. The company has already applied its mapping techniques to a number of individual utilities in Britain, building up a database for them, and constructing maps of their services networks which can be displayed on screens. But the Cork system will allow all the partners to combine their information and thus co-ordinate their activities.

In future, for example, it will be possible for the electricity supply board engineers to bring up a sector of Cork on the company's screen, complete with a graphic display of its own cabling network.

The engineers can then superimpose on this picture the diagram of the gas company's pipes; and on top of that, they can put Telecom Eireann's telephone lines, and the location of the city corporation's water mains and sewage drains.

The advantages of this computerised system fall into two categories. First, there are the benefits which should flow from co-ordinating information from the different utilities and the local authority.

Traditionally, there is little requirement on these separate organisations to liaise with any of the others. Local authorities in Britain and Ireland have to be told when a pipeline is going to be dug up, and other utilities are usually consulted. But if a project is urgent, there may be no consultation at all, with the result that repairs may arrive at the scene of the project with little information about what is underground.

Using the graphic system, however, engineers will be able to print up a precise, colour-coded map of the area they will be excavating, delineating both the lines of their own company and those of the other utilities. They will also be able to see if there is any similar work planned by these sister organisations, because the mapping system is equally capable of showing where, repair or construction work is in progress.

In addition, Mr. Leo Corcoran, senior operating engineer at Cork Gas and the main architect of the new scheme, believes that the system will generate much improved work planning among utilities. The data-sharing arrangements, he argues, should lead to greatly-reduced duplication of

the excavation of roads — a costly item for utilities, which have to pay the local authority every time they dig up a street. The second advantage of the new system is that it should yield internal benefits to each of the utilities in keeping and maintaining its records. These potential improvements include:

— The management of databases. Standard information will now be fed into each utility's computerised database, which is much easier to manipulate than the existing system of paper or card files. The computer, for example, could tell the corporation how many lamp posts it had installed in 1976; or it could give the user a complete life history of a particular lamp post.

— Planning and redesigning the network. The new system will lead naturally to computer-aided design for the networks. Design techniques using paper drawings put together from card indexes will probably become a thing of the past, and Mr. Corcoran believes that it will be possible to speed up planning enormously by using an integrated computer system in which the information needed by the engineers arrives in a digital form.

— Repair and maintenance work. In future, engineers carrying out repair work ought to be assured of more up-to-date maps than under traditional methods. To extract a description of their work requirements, all they have to do is run off a copy of a piece of the computerised map. This is likely to be more accurate than the maps currently used by utility repair teams, because these are copied from paper master plans which tend to decay over time.

In due course, Mr. Corcoran believes that the system being introduced in Cork will find widespread acceptance elsewhere. It is too early as yet, he says, to know what savings the scheme will generate. But he believes they should be substantial in terms of continuing productivity improvements, along with the less tangible gains which could be realised from co-ordinating future maintenance.

In addition, there will be savings on the capital account from using one integrated computer system for all of the utilities rather than a number of separate data processors. "We are saving £1 million (\$1.65 million) in hardware by doing this together."

The main problem in extending the co-operative principle elsewhere may be as much political as technical. Cork, with a population of 135,000, is a clearly-defined area with obvious interests for the utilities in working together. But elsewhere, the geographical area of utility interests often overlaps, and relations between the organisations may not be as smooth as in Cork.

— Financial Times feature.

Jordan rejects report role

(Continued from page 1)
the conference officially," Mr. Khatib was quoted as saying by Reuters.

He said all the main parties should officially announce their acceptance of the conference, adding: "Once this is done, the next step will be for the U.N. secretary general to issue an invitation to all the parties, including the Security Council's permanent members."

"Israel has not formally accepted the conference," the minister pointed out.

"All this talk is kite flying to test public opinion," Mr. Khatib said and drew attention to a statement made by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai earlier this month.

Mr. Rifai, denying reports of contacts and agreements between Jordan and Israel over the international conference, said all efforts towards convening the conference were futile as long as Israel rejected the principle of holding it.

"As is well known, Jordan insists on the necessity of inviting the PLO to attend the conference," Mr. Rifai said in the May 3 statement, which was carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Rifai said parties to the conference should accept that the principle of convening it was aimed settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 and renounce terror and violence.

The Belgian foreign minister, Mr. Tindemans, in a news conference before his departure from Israel after a two-day visit on Monday, said that he had found Arab states favouring a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation at the proposed conference.

"With a mixed Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, there could be contacts with the PLO associated in a certain way."

He said that he ended a tour of Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia last month "with more than the feeling that direct representation of the PLO was not accepted."

Cairo, Riyadh deny opposition to PLO

On Tuesday, Saudi Arabia and

Egypt also denied they opposed direct PLO participation in the conference.

The Saudi Press Agency quoted an official Saudi source as denying Mr. Tindemans' remark. The official said the allegation was "baseless and untrue" and reaffirmed the Saudi recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, in remarks published in the London-based Mideast Mirror newsletter, rejected Mr. Tindemans' suggestion that Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia had agreed to hold the conference without the PLO.

Dr. Ghali said PLO representation at the conference was important and "how this representation will materialise — directly, indirectly, through a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation — will have to be agreed by the parties concerned, among them the PLO and the Jordanian government."

"Should the PLO accept indirect representation, we will support the PLO. Should the PLO ask for direct representation, then we will support the idea of direct representation," Dr. Ghali added. "Our attitude is very flexible."

Dr. Ghali was quoted as saying he thought that diplomacy would find a compromise formula with the PLO's insistence on direct representation at any conference.

The Egyptian minister, referring to differing Israeli views on the conference and its objectives, said: "I believe the different points of view can be reconciled through negotiations and more negotiations until we reach a common position on the conference and its procedures."

Dr. Ghali stressed that Cairo's closure of PLO offices last month did not mean a change of policy in support of Palestinian rights.

Dr. Ghali said Cairo did not expect to receive an invitation to the next Arab summit conference "because the summit would be held within the framework of the Arab League."

Giant machine readied to study secrets of universe

By Dean Lokken
Reuters

PALO ALTO, California — American scientists have built a huge machine, shaped like a two-mile-long tennis racket, that they plan to put into operation this summer to study one of the tiniest components of the universe.

If it works as predicted, the Stanford Linear Collider (SLC) will produce a subatomic particle known as "The Z" which physicists hope will help explain the evolution of the universe.

The Z is one of man's most elusive discoveries. Only a few dozen have been detected since European scientists discovered them in 1983.

Physicists can produce Z particles by smashing electrons and positrons together and believe that, by studying the split-second life of the tiny particles, they will learn much about the building blocks of nature and the forces that hold them together.

Scientists from 14 European nations have embarked on a similar venture and are building a \$1-billion gigantic accelerator, with a circumference of some 16 miles, at Geneva.

But that accelerator is not scheduled for completion until 1989 and will cost about five times as much as the American one.

The Stanford scientists have spent a little more than \$100 million on the SLC, most of it from U.S. Department of Energy grants.

The SLC is actually an updated version of a linear collider that has been operating in the Rolling Hills near Stanford University for the past 20 years.

A section of the collider is buried beneath a busy motorway used daily by thousands of drivers travelling between San Francisco and Silicon Valley, home of many computer and high technology companies.

The brainchild of Nobel Prize-winner Burton Richter, who serves as director of Stanford's linear accelerator programme, the SLC design differs significantly from the one adopted for the European device.

The European project at the Geneva Research Centre, known as CERN, is based on a conventional circular design, much like the \$4.6 billion atom smasher the Reagan administration has proposed for completion in the mid-1990s.

The Stanford collider is designed with a long shaft and a huge ring at one end. Beams of electrons and positrons are shot at nearly the speed of light through a small pipe to the end of the tunnel where hundreds of magnets separate and send them in two directions.

The positrons, the antimatter opposites of electrons, are channelled to the right and the elec-



Stanford University researchers have unveiled this \$115.4 million linear collider they will use to probe the nature of matter. They hope to use the 4.3 kilometre collider to produce Z particles, the smallest known particles in the universe.

trons to the left around what resembles the head of a tennis racket.

The two beams, each one-25th as thick as a human hair, collide at the top of the racket, producing hundreds of new particles, including The Z.

Although the point of collision is microscopic, the scientists have constructed huge detector devices in a building the size of an enormous jetliner hangar.

The detectors will record the

brief lives of The Z particles, and the data will be analysed by more than 100 researchers at the accelerator.

Scientists hope to gather enough information to help prove or disprove "the theory of everything" — their supposition that the four basic forces of nature can be tied together in one grand and tidy theory.

"That's our holy grail — the search for the unification," said Sidney Drell, deputy director of

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Mecir crashes out of Italian Open

ROME (R) — Top two seeds Ivan Lendl and Mats Wilander reached the second round of the Italian Open Men's Tennis Championship in contrasting style Tuesday, but number three Miroslav Mecir tumbled out.

Czechoslovak Mecir was the victim of the first major upset in the \$495,000 tournament when he was beaten 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 by Sweden's Anders Jarryd.

World number one and Czechoslovak defending champion Lendl gained an overpowering 6-2, 6-3 win against Italian Claudio Panatta, who failed to display the fight and flair with which his brother Adriano was renowned in the Foro Italico a decade ago.

Second-seeded Wilander, who will be one of the main threats when Lendl defends his French Open title later this month, beat Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union also by 6-2, 6-3 but was made to sweat for every point.

While Lendl was winning with consummate ease, the Swede was detained on court for almost two hours by the Russian, who

inflicted a crushing defeat on Wilander in last year's French Open in Paris.

Jarryd's success provides a timely boost after a series of injuries resulted in the Swede, ranked fifth in the world 18 months ago, plummeting down the ratings. Now he could wreak havoc in the French Open as an unseeded player.

Mecir, known as the 'Big Cat' because of his stealthy and deceptively languid approach, contented himself with basking in the sun throughout the first set.

The Czechoslovak lost the first five games as though he did not have a care in the world before suddenly showing his claws at the start of the second which he dominated with angled returns and cunning lobs.

But Jarryd is one of the most intelligent players on the circuit

and he raced into a 5-1 lead in the final set before Mecir realised the danger when he faced three match points.

The Czechoslovak, who has been taking medication for the past seven weeks due to a respiratory complaint, survived the crisis to the delight of the Italian fans and pulled back to 5-4 before Jarryd served out for the match.

"He's not the easiest of opponents," said Jarryd. "He has a tremendous record against us Swedes and it was nice to beat him at his own game."

Mecir, who had trouble with his breathing throughout, said: "I didn't feel like playing here, but I didn't feel bad enough to justify pulling out. Almost from the first point, I felt really weak."

Jackie Stewart's son to take up motor racing

LONDON (R) — Paul Stewart, whose father Jackie Stewart was world motor-racing champion three times, said Tuesday he was taking up the sport.

The 21-year-old Scot, who will compete in a series of Formula Ford races starting in May, has never driven competitively but performed impressively at a drivers' course at Brands Hatch.

Stewart said: "Formula One would certainly be an ambition if things work out but that is a long way along the road."

His father was initially against the idea and refused to help him financially. Although he changed his mind after hearing how well he had done at Brands Hatch, the money is coming from sponsors.

Paul, who is studying politics and law at university in North Carolina, entered the drivers' course under an assumed name to avoid publicity and the possibility of an over-favourable assessment.

Jackie Stewart, world champion in 1969, 71 and 73, said: "If he really wants to do it then I am not going to stop him."

But he added: "I suppose if you really love your children you just don't want them to get involved in something like this, although I was exactly the same with my parents."

His son will wear a tartan helmet similar to the one made famous by his father in his career which brought a record 27 Grand Prix victories.

Bayern signs new striker; Borussia Rahn rejects transfer

BONN (Agencies) — European Cup finalists Bayern Munich have agreed on terms for the transfer of striker Juergen Wegmann, 23, from West German First Division club Schalke.

Schalke said Bayern would pay 1.15 million marks (\$650,000) for Wegmann, who is the second striker bought by the West German league leaders for next season.

Bayern, whose veteran centre-forward Dieter Hoenes retires after the European Cup final with Porto on May 27, have already signed Uwe Tschiskale from Second-Division club Wattenscheid.

In another transfer deal, the league's leading scorer Fritz Walter of Waldhof Mannheim will sign for Stuttgart on Wednesday. Walter, 26, has scored 20 goals this season.

In Moenchengladbach, West Germany, West German soccer club Borussia Moenchengladbach said Tuesday they had rejected a bid by Dutch Champions PSV Eindhoven for midfielder UWE Rahn.

Borussia manager Helmut Grashoff said Eindhoven's offer of four million marks (\$2.25 mil-

lion) was not high enough for the 24-year-old player.

The Dutch club said earlier they had agreed terms with Rahn, whom they want to fill the gap caused next season by the departure of Ruud Gullit to AC Milan. Gullit will cost the Italian club 17 million guilders (\$8.5 million).

"We don't want to give Rahn away," Grashoff said. "We would only let him go for an amount which would bowl us over."

Allofs signs for Marseille

In Cologne, West Germany, West German soccer captain Klaus Allofs said Tuesday that he had signed a three-year contract to play for French league leaders Marseille from next season.

Allofs, 30, made the announcement after returning from Paris where he met Marseille president Bernard Tapie on Monday to finalise the deal.

His club Cologne will receive a fee of 2.4 million marks (\$1.3 million).

Allofs, a striker who played for West Germany in last year's World Cup final in Mexico, re-

cently won his 50th cap for his country. He was appointed captain of the national team this season.

Wimbledon manager resigns

In Wimbledon, Dave Bassett, who guided English soccer club Wimbledon from non-league obscurity to sixth in the first division, has quit as manager.

Bassett's shock resignation fueled rumors that he might take over the vacant managership of Aston Villa, a much richer club which last Friday sacked its manager after being relegated to division two.

The colourful 42-year-old Londoner dropped his bombshell after a meeting with Wimbledon's chairman, Lebanese millionaire Sam Hanuman.

Bassett said: "I have today given notice to Wimbledon Football Club in accordance with the terms of my present contract of appointment."

"My reasons for taking this action are several and there are certain relevant matters which are, and must remain, confidential between me and the club."

IOC border crossing important but not essential, says Samaranch

ISTANBUL (R) — A mission seeking to resolve the North-South row over sharing the 1988 Olympics will go to Pyongyang even if it is not allowed to cross the border between the two Koreas, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch said Tuesday.

The IOC is to send a delegation to the North Korean capital later this month in its efforts to iron out the dispute over sharing the games.

Samaranch wants the delegation to travel from Pyongyang to Seoul via Pannunjom, across the demilitarised zone which has di-

vided the two countries since the end of the Korean war in 1953. The aim would be to check the border crossing problems which would have to be resolved if the games are to be shared between North and South.

"If they refuse to open the border we will still go (to Pyongyang). We will not close the door, but we would be very disappointed," Samaranch told a news conference.

Speaking at the end of the 92nd IOC session, Samaranch said the North Korean delegation in Istanbul had agreed to receive an IOC delegation in Pyongyang. He added that North Korea's

agreement to open up the border would be regarded as a gesture of goodwill.

He expected a reply next week to whether the mission, to be led by Romanian IOC member Alexandru Sipero, would be permitted to cross the border.

The Pyongyang visit is intended to prepare the ground for the fourth round of bilateral talks between North and South Korean Olympic officials at the IOC's Lausanne headquarters on July 14-15.

North Korea, which originally threatened to lead a communist boycott if it was not granted half the 23 sports in the games, has refused to accept an IOC compromise offer of archery, table tennis and some soccer and cycling.

It has insisted on being given eight full sports and Samaranch said he had detected no change in Pyongyang's position during his discussions in Istanbul.

Both sides stress that time is running out in the search for a solution.

'Foolproof blood doping test found'

FLORENCE, Italy (R) — A Swedish scientist attending an international symposium on doping in sport put forward what he said was a foolproof method to ascertain whether athletes had undergone blood transfusions to improve their performances.

Professor Bo Berglund of Stockholm's Carolinska Institute said blood transfusions were a more widespread means of doping than the use of anabolic steroids because no one had yet come up with an accurate test.

An athlete taking a transfusion before a marathon, for example, could improve his performance

by up to two minutes over a competitor running without the aid of a transfusion, Berglund told the symposium.

He said transfusions raised the amount of oxygen-boosting haemoglobin in the blood to more than 10 per cent.

Berglund said one blood sample should be taken from athletes immediately after a race and another after 10 days. He described a test involving measuring the concentration of haemoglobin against other particles in the blood as a means of identifying athletes who had resorted to the technique.

Aristocrats take on long-time strugglers in English F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Tottenham is a district of north London associated first and foremost by most Englishmen with a famous football club. Coventry is an industrial city through which Lady Godiva once rode without her clothes.

"Tottenham Hotspur play Coventry City in the English F.A. Cup final on Saturday, a meeting between one of the country's aristocratic clubs and a side that for the last 20 years has maintained a fragile hold on First Division life."

The Lady Godiva legend — tradition has it that 900 years ago, mounted on horseback, she rode oaked through Coventry to wring concessions for the local citizens from the Earl of Chester, her

husband — is a story that has a place in English folklore. Coventry city F.C. enjoys no such standing.

The club's greatest moment was 20 years ago when a crowd of 51,455 at their highfield road ground watched them beat Wolverhampton Wanderers to win the Second Division championship. The success completed an odyssey from the depths of the English Third Division to a place among the elite teams.

But the man behind the club's surge, manager Jimmy Hill, then left to present football on television and although Coventry have remained a First Division team, they have rarely looked secure among the more wealthy clubs.

Hill became manager shortly after one of the darkest days in the club's history. On Nov. 25, 1961, Coventry were knocked out of the F.A. cup by King's Lynn, a small club from outside the English league.

It was yet another inglorious attempt by Coventry to reach a

final at Wembley Stadium for the first time. They continued to try in vain until a Sunday last month when they beat Leeds United 3-2 in extra time of their cup semi-final to book next Saturday's appointment with Tottenham.

Just as in the hill years, it is the management team off the field that is being given the credit for Coventry's achievement. Managing director George Curtis and chief coach John Sillett played together for the club in the 1960s and have come together again to accomplish what remained an unfulfilled ambition.

Curtis, a miner's son who joined Coventry as a player 32 years ago, is particularly excited about his team's F.A. Cup run. For him it has finally expunged the memory of that defeat by King's Lynn, a match in which he played.

"That was undoubtedly the darkest cup day in our history," says Curtis, recalling the King's Lynn game.

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IRBID DISTRICT ELECTRICITY CO. LTD THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN SIXTH POWER PROJECT LOAN 2710-0-JO

1. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of the supply CIF AQABA OF KILOWATT HOUR METERS AND MINIATURE CIRCUIT BREAKERS and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for the above goods (TENDER IBRD 11/86).
2. The Irbid District Electricity Company now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply CIF AQABA OF KILOWATT HOUR METERS AND MINIATURE CIRCUIT BREAKERS.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and be able to inspect the bidding documents at the office of:
Director General
Irbid District Electricity Company.
P.O. Box 46 Irbid - Jordan
Telex 51528 KHRBCO JO
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of non-refundable fee of 50 U.S. dollars or JD equivalent.
5. All bids must be accompanied by a security of not less than 2% of the bid price and must be delivered to the above office or before 1200 HRS ON 22/6/1987.

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Prince Hamza Housing Estate

Please phone: 892435 or 892640

FOR RENT FURNISHED VILLA

3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, maid's room, large salon, dining and sitting rooms, kitchen. Garage, garden, telephone, and central heating.

Location: Alia Heights

Please call tel: 812304

FURNISHED ROOF FLAT FOR RENT

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Performances 3:30, 5:10, 9:30, 10:45

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RAZOR BACK

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573

SHANGHAI SURPRISE

Performances 3:15, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

DOG DAY

Performances 3:30, 5:10, 8:30, 10:45

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198

3:15

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 8:00, 10:45

دولت، نه فساد

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6643/53	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.3365/75	Canadian dollar
	1.7875/85	West German marks
	2.0155/65	Dutch guilders
	1.4680/90	Swiss francs
	37.09/11	Belgian francs
	5.9740/90	French francs
	1293/1294	Italian lira
	139.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.2500/50	Swedish crown
	6.6500/50	Norwegian crown
	6.7225/75	Danish crown
One ounce of gold	459.60/460.10	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities stood near the day's lows in late trading, although profit-taking which spilled over from Monday eased off Tuesday afternoon, dealers said.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was down 26.5 points at 2,136.8 after a low of 2,132.4 at 0927 GMT. Shares moved lower at the outset amid a sense of anti-climax after Monday's June 11 general election call, but dealers said light bargain hunting at the lows helped to brake the decline.

Tuesday's easier trend on Wall Street fuelled the early downturn but dealers said domestic factors continued to be the major influence on the London market.

One dealer said trading in equities and gilts will continue to be nervous and relatively thin ahead of the election date.

"The market is already too heavy, and any adverse factors — even if they are only small — will have a drastic effect on prices," he said.

Opinion polls are likely to have a major effect on the market, and any slippage in the Tory party lead would hurt the equity and gilt markets, since it makes the possibility of a "bung parliament" more likely, dealers said.

Japan spells out plans to assist Third World

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Tuesday spelled out Japan's plans to contribute \$20 billion over the next three years to Third World countries.

The plans were first announced last month in Washington by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's personal envoy, former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe.

Until now, many of the details of the proposal have been undisclosed, fanning suspicions that there was less to the idea than met the eye.

The United States and Third World nations have been pushing Japan to use the benefits of its mammoth trade surplus to help the developing world.

Mr. Miyazawa told a parliamentary committee Tuesday that the Export-Import Bank of

Japan will loan \$3 billion to developing countries over the next three years. The loans would not have to be used to purchase Japanese goods.

\$9 billion will be provided by the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund and other Japanese government agencies along with international financial institutions like the World Bank and with commercial banks.

The final \$8 billion would be provided to the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and other regional development banks.

Part of this would be met by allowing those organisations to borrow more from private Japanese investors. The rest would come from the Japanese government.

UNESCO begins debating budget problems today

PARIS (R) — UNESCO's executive board opens a five-week session Wednesday with problems over meeting a \$39 million budget deficit and finding a successor to controversial Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'bow.

The troubled United Nations agency for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) has already suspended some programmes and cut nearly 800 staff to cope with a 30 per cent cut in its income caused by the withdrawal of the United States, Britain and Singapore.

Now its budget worries have been aggravated by a fall in the U.S. dollar, the currency in which member states pay their dues.

Spokesman Doudou Diene says that with many states reluctant to pay up, all U.N. agencies are now suffering the same problems that bit UNESCO in 1985 — the first year without the Americans.

But, he told a news conference this week, "UNESCO is out of

the critical phase."

Officials and diplomats say there is now a consensus on the need to avoid divisive political clashes — one of the reasons cited by the Reagan administration for its pullout.

Officials say Mr. M'bow, whose second six-year mandate ends in November, will ask the board to approve meeting the deficit by using a total of \$28 million from an inflation reserve fund, miscellaneous receipts and a budgetary surplus for 1984 and 1985, which would normally be returned to member states.

To cover the remaining \$11 million he will seek a "supplementary estimate" of 7.5 per cent of members' contributions, the maximum the board is empowered to authorise.

Some officials say UNESCO may face a cash shortage by the end of the year if the dollar continues to fall and member states continue to pay their dues either late or not at all.

Soviet grain harvest may reach 195 million tonnes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union's 1987 harvest could produce 195 million tonnes of grain, down seven per cent from last year's bumper yield but still one of the largest crops on record, the United States' Department of Agriculture (USDA) said Monday.

In its first forecast of this year's Soviet grain output, the USDA said production could include about 75 million tonnes of wheat, 106 million tonnes of "coarse" grains such as rye, barley, oats and corn, and 14 million tonnes of miscellaneous grains and pulses, which include peas and beans.

Last year's harvest of 210.1 million tonnes was the biggest since the record output of 237.4 million tonnes in 1978. The Soviets produced 92.3 million tonnes of wheat, 105.9 million tonnes of coarse grains, and 11.9 million tonnes of miscellaneous grains and pulses.

Officials said the 1987 forecast is "highly tentative" and will be updated as the growing season progresses.

Total grain area was estimated at 116.3 million hectares, marginally less than last year's 116.5 million, the report said.

A tonne is about 2,205 pounds and is equal to 36.7 bushels of wheat or 39.4 bushels of corn. One hectare is about 2.47 acres.

Despite the favourable crop outlook, the report said the Soviet Union "is again expected to turn heavily to the international grain market" for imports, estimated at 36 million tonnes in the year that will begin July 1, up from 30 million tonnes in 1984-85 before dropping the last two years.

The imports are expected to include greater quantities of wheat, the report said.

Moscow has agreed to buy four million tonnes of U.S. subsidised wheat through Sept. 30 as part of the Soviet commitment under a long-term grain agreement with the United States.

S. Arabia unveils first share trading floor

RIYADH (R) — Quietly, without fanfare, Saudi Arabia has unveiled its first stock exchange trading floor in a move seen by bankers as a major step towards liberalising the kingdom's financial system.

Bankers said a central trading hall was opened in Riyadh's business district Monday and some 3,000 shares changed hands in the exchange's first official two-house session.

With none of the celebration surrounding the recent "Big Bang" relaunch of share trading in London — not even an official announcement — the opening reflected the low-key approach Saudi authorities have taken to financial reform in the richest Arab nation, bankers said.

Over the past months, share traders from each of Saudi Arabia's 11 commercial banks have been quietly trained ahead of the launch, but bankers said it was unclear until Monday when the

new exchange floor would go live.

Previously, the 46 major Saudi Arabian listed companies and banks had been traded by telephone and telex without a physical trading floor.

Bankers said trading on Monday got off to a fairly slow start, with investors still uncertain about how the new system would work and turnover based on three large contracts.

But share prices have been rising strongly in anticipation of the exchange, helped also as steadier world oil prices foster a modest recovery in Saudi Arabia's economy.

While the rise in share prices has been taken as a healthy sign

for the kingdom's investment climate, bankers said Saudi authorities want to avoid a speculative wave of trading.

The \$90 billion crash in 1982 of Kuwait's unofficial stock market, the Souk Al Manakh, still haunts the Arab World and slowed the development of stock exchanges in the region.

The Saudi exchange is part of a wider programme of liberalisation of the kingdom's financial system that has emerged this year, bankers said.

Removal of withholding tax allowed the 11 commercial banks to participate in the lucrative world of investment banking outside Saudi Arabia. Previously the tax had made this puny but expensive.

In addition, a new committee is being formed to hear disputes between banks and creditors. A growing number of non-performing

loans has eaten heavily into bank profits.

The new stock exchange will trade from 11 a.m. to one p.m. local time, with prices of major shares displayed on a big board. Bankers said shares are traded on an auction basis, with each bank allowed two dealers on the floor.

Share trading has been the exclusive preserve of banks in Saudi Arabia since 1984 when it was taken out of the hands of independent brokers.

The kingdom's central bank, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, still does not allow commercial banks to take positions in shares or trade on their own account. They can only match buy or sell orders.

Bankers said draft guidelines are now being circulated that could allow banks to hold a limited number of shares for a limited amount of time.

Egyptian banks start new exchange system

CAIRO (R) — Amid public confusion, Egyptian banks Tuesday launched a new foreign exchange mechanism aimed at attracting more foreign currency into the official banking system.

Bankers were buying dollars and other foreign currencies at new rates set by a bankers' committee Monday as part of a government-authorised partial float.

But bankers said dealers on the unofficial black market, called the "free market" and tolerated by the government, were still in business selling dollars.

As bankers and business customers grappled with new rules, foreign visitors changed their money over the counter rather than in whispered street transactions.

Egyptians who wanted to travel abroad on business, holiday or as pilgrims to Muslim holy places in Saudi Arabia found they could not buy dollars, even at the new banks' rate which was comparable to recent "free market" levels.

At one of the four state-owned banks, an old man who asked to buy Saudi riyals for a pilgrimage to Mecca was turned down. The black market will be his only source of hard currency.

The government announced Monday that rates fixed daily by the banks' panel would apply for tourists and transfers borne by Egyptians working abroad — up to \$3 billion a year, most of which comes into the black market.

Importers of non-essential items will also have to buy dollars at the new rates — 2.17 Egyptian pounds to the dollar Monday against a central bank rate of 1.35.

The government said the measures, part of a package of reforms linked to International Monetary Fund (IMF) aid for

issue its daily list of exchange rates for the pound against major currencies.

Airlines continued to calculate ticket prices at the central bank rate and airline officials said they had not been told to do otherwise by the central bank.

"Things are all mixed up," a West European airline source said.

Bankers said they felt the banks' rate was realistic. One said an extra \$70,000 had come from "non-normal sources," in-

set daily rates for limited purposes.

(Rates are expressed in Egyptian piasters — 100 piasters to one pound).

Following are banknote rates for major currencies announced by the new "management committee for banks' free foreign exchange market," authorised by the government since Monday to

cluding Egyptians remitting from abroad, during the first two hours of business.

But it would take several days for the impact of the new measures on the economy to become clear, bankers said.

Under the IMF deal, set for approval by the fund's executive board in Washington next Friday, Egypt is expected to receive \$300 million in standby credits.

The accord will also pave the way for rescheduling its official debt to Western creditor governments, due to discuss the issue next week in Paris.

Egypt's Western-backed government sought international help after falling world oil prices, tourism revenue and transfers by Egyptians abroad cut its hard currency earnings last year at a time of heavy debt instalments.

Mr. Abdul Salam Khalil, general manager of the state-owned National Bank of Egypt, said he thought demand for dollars from holiday-makers and pilgrims would be a small part of the total and would have little impact on the free market.

Some bankers said the free market would continue to exist until hard currency earnings covered domestic demand by all sectors and individuals and for all purposes.

"There will always be a black market," one banker said.

But Mr. Khalil said people would go to the banks to change their money because it was safer, legal and offered the same price. Banks have been authorised to stay open longer to allow the new system more flexibility.

Sources close to the free market said dealers were still assessing the situation and there were few transactions. One said he would sell dollars at a rate of 2.30 pounds.

output ceiling of 15.8 million barrels per day (b/d) at its next conference which starts on June 25 in Vienna, Dr. Oteiba said. The meeting "will debate one subject which is an increase in the production ceiling to preserve balance in the oil market and guarantee OPEC a greater just

share of it," he said.

Dr. Oteiba put world demand for OPEC oil through the third quarter of last year at around 17.4 million b/d, rising to 18 million b/d in the fourth quarter.

Dr. Oteiba said OPEC must resist the temptation of higher prices.

(UAE) told Al Itihad newspaper in remarks published Tuesday OPEC had succeeded in boosting world oil prices to around \$18 a barrel from \$15 at the start of the year through production restraint.

Oil market strength will allow OPEC to increase its current

UAE calls for higher OPEC oil production

ABU DHABI (R) — A senior minister of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has called on the 13-nation group to increase its oil output ceiling while keeping prices \$18 a barrel.

Dr. Mana Saeed Al Oteiba of the United Arab Emirates

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's full moon brings you the opportunity to delve into whatever practical matters require your attention. Use considerable diplomacy if you make any changes.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Wordly talks are required today if you are to take advantage of the good aspects. You are full of energy now.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A clever associate has wise ideas for gaining quite a few assets, so be helpful and get your share of them.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Even if the work you have to do is not very much fun, get at it early and be done with it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan your time more intelligently and you can devote your hours between your mate and friends.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Many situations arise to help you know better where you stand. If an argument arises, don't enter into it.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) The full moon can bring you good ideas. You can add to your present set-up and make real progress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have ideas that need to be expressed in practical terms if you are to get the financial backing you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) An associate may not agree with you now, but you can persevere and convince him or her, and get fine results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try not to let some personal matter stand in the way of the duties ahead of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try to give a party that will help your mate and your friends come to a better understanding.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get civic and credit affairs handled. Postpone entertaining at home until a better day and time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have fine ideas for becoming more skillful at your work. Be very courteous with others today.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, is apt to jump from a practical activity to a personal one and not accomplish very much of either, so teach this one the importance of perseverance. This will bring your progeny much success. Also teach this child to listen to others.

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin

ACROSS

1. Any time
2. Enter a state
3. "Bible"
4. Disallow
5. Petal name
6. Glancing city
7. Speak
8. Actor Ron
9. Tree house
10. Like some seats
11. Peeper
12. Author Fleming
13. Clutter
14. Assault
15. Pueblo Indians
16. Seller
17. Window dressing
18. Ruler
19. Bender
20. Assail
21. Stunt
22. Suffer
23. Speak angrily
24. Explosive letters
25. Tax agency
26. Letter
27. City
28. Menace
29. In favor of
30. Oak
31. River into the Salto
32. Hide at anchor
33. Shiver
34. Time cycle
35. Tenseness
36. Very small

DOWN

1. Conical
2. Jealousy's cousin
3. Cornal grain
4. Aim
5. Polka
6. Help in "wringing"
7. Toward word
8. Wince, Sp.
9. Secret
10. Forest animal
11. Feed the fitty
12. Disposition
13. Part of USSR
14. Approaches
15. Step
16. Wading bird
17. Groove
18. Shirley
19. Temple film
20. Source of vexation
21. Residence
22. Fencing sword
23. Body of moral values
24. Kinship's land
25. Sea eagles
26. Asterisk
27. "can't be love"
28. Hair coloring
29. Most tasty
30. Brackish
31. Supremacy
32. US Supreme Court justice
33. Indian
34. "Born Free" heroine
35. 50 50
36. Actor Mische
37. Please
38. Persian
39. Shower
40. Approve
41. Kage, abbr.
42. No longer
43. Works, abbr.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

WALLAH CHAH STAN
ROBBIE OATH TINS
LARKIA GRAB ERIS
TMA NUNA ARABIA
TAMPA RAIN
JOHN SECURITY YAS
ISIAN SISO SIAI
LIPER HOIT PROIE
SRI CELIAH USIS
REED GARTY
REIADO ROME MRY
APES EMIR ROMER
PIRES SOIT DREAD
TIRIS TOIR SOIRIN

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ACTEX
MAFLE
COAMIS
WHARRO

WHAT DO GHOSTS EAT FOR BREAKFAST?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: OOOOOO OF OOOOOO

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IMPEL ABATE SECOND OFFSET
Answer: Jokes are always improved when they're told by the boss

Aquino seen headed for victory; opposition calls elections 'a fraud'

MANILA (R) — The Philippines' major opposition group Tuesday called Monday's congressional elections a fraud as President Corazon Aquino appeared headed for a major victory.

Juan Ponce Enrile, the former defence minister who remains a powerful figure with rebellious elements in the military, said a massive win for Mrs. Aquino could plunge the troubled country into deeper turmoil.

Mr. Enrile's Grand Alliance for Democracy (GAD) said the election — hailed by others as a major achievement — was riddled with cheating and fraud. No GAD winners would take up seats in the senate, he added.

Mrs. Aquino virtually ignored the charge but her senior aides said the media should investigate it.

Mr. Ramon Felipe, chairman

of the official Commission on Elections (Comelec) dismissed the charges as a publicity stunt and said he had received no formal complaint.

"I don't believe that they will forfeit their seats," he said of the boycott threat. "It's just a bluff. They don't want to accept defeat," he told reporters.

After 24 hours of counting, all unofficial tallies showed Mrs. Aquino's Lakas ng Bayan (People Power) coalition was sweeping the board in the senate.

The trend remained virtually unchanged all day, giving Mrs. Aquino all but one of the 24 senate seats with the single excep-

tion of Joseph Estrada, a popular film star standing for GAD.

Analysts warned that it was too early to call a conclusive trend but added that the huge voter turnout would undoubtedly help the popular Aquino.

Poll-watchers and officials acknowledged scattered cheating and bribery and the military said at least 20 people had died in election-related violence Monday.

Comelec said a special election would be held in Sulu, a Muslim stronghold in the far south where ballot papers were seized by rebels and poll officials scared off.

But in an angry outburst, GAD — facing a possible rout — called the vote fraudulent and said it could lead to major political dislocation.

Mr. Enrile said he feared the result could trigger "instability of unimaginable magnitude" in the country, already struggling to cope with Communist and Muslim rebels and mutinous sections of the armed forces.

Mr. Enrile, who turned against ex-President Ferdinand Marcos and helped lead the "People Power" revolution that brought Mrs. Aquino to power 15 months ago, was an easy winner in absentee votes cast by soldiers but was only 26th in the early overall counting.

Other military votes are not distinguishable from civilian ballots.

India set to crackdown on Punjab extremists after ouster of Barnala

NEW DELHI (R) — Security forces in the Indian state of Punjab, freed from the control of the state's sacked moderate Sikh government, Tuesday prepared to launch a crackdown on Sikh extremists.

Security officials in the state capital Chandigarh told Reuters police and paramilitary troops were expected to raid extremist hide-outs and increase operations in all areas of the state.

They said Punjab's tough-talking police chief Julio Ribeiro, who had been restrained by the moderate government of ousted Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala, had been given a free hand.

The central government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi imposed direct rule from New Delhi on Punjab Monday night and dismissed Mr. Barnala, accusing his administration of being soft on the extremists.

More than 1,000 people have been killed in an extremist campaign for a separate Sikh homeland since Mr. Barnala came to power in September 1985 elections.

The Press Trust of India news

agency said about 6,000 paramilitary reinforcements had arrived in Punjab since Monday.

In a brief exchange with reporters Tuesday Mr. Ribeiro said of direct rule: "now you will see the results."

Senior police officers had complained that some members of Barnala's Akali Dal government had links with extremists and used their political influence to shield them.

Security sources said several former Akali ministers now feared arrest.

Direct rule puts the 60,000 state police and paramilitary troops under the control of a governor appointed by Delhi.

The governor, Sidharta Shankar Ray, can also call out the army if necessary.

Mr. Ray told reporters in Chandigarh that law and order had been completely broken down under Mr. Barnala.

In a report to Mr. Gandhi Monday Mr. Ray also accused Akali leaders of "unwarranted attempted interference" with police operations.

He said fundamentalists and

extremists in Amritsar's Golden Temple, Sikhism's holiest shrine, had set up parallel authority in the state.

Direct rule has been imposed nine times in the past 20 years in Sikh-majority Punjab. It was lifted after two years in September 1985 when the Akali Dal won elections engineered by Mr. Gandhi, who signed a peace accord with moderate Sikhs in July that year.

That accord has stalled mainly because of opposition by Hindus, a minority in Punjab but a majority throughout the rest of north India, where Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party draws its major support.

Opposition leaders accused Mr. Gandhi of sacking Mr. Barnala to appease Hindu sentiments in Hindu-dominated Haryana state where Congress faces crucial elections on June 17.

Mr. Gandhi, his image badly tarnished by corruption scandals this year, needs to do well in Haryana, a state wedged between Punjab and Delhi. Thousands of Hindu families have fled there to escape violence in Punjab.

Alfonsin not to seek reelection

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has said he will not seek reelection to a second term even if a constitutional reform makes it possible.

"I think that six years are enough time for any man," Mr. Alfonsin told journalists after inaugurating the 36th General Assembly of the International Press Institute.

"I do hope to have the high honour of handing over the presidential seal to another president elected by the people," said Mr. Alfonsin, who was elected in 1983 after almost eight years of military rule.

Argentina's constitution foresees a presidential term of six years without the possibility of reelection.

But members of Mr. Alfonsin's Radical Party have sought to reform the constitution to make for the reelection of Mr. Alfonsin, whose term ends in 1989.

Other politicians have denounced the proposal, saying it would resemble the widely criticised second term of former President Juan Peron in the 1950s.

The armed forces forced Peron out of office in 1955, before the end of his term of office.

Mr. Alfonsin's government last month was threatened by military revolts in protest of human rights trials against officers of the former military government.

Pro-Amin soldiers desert Museveni, join rebels

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Hundreds of soldiers loyal to former dictator Idi Amin have deserted President Yoweri Museveni's army to join rebels fighting in northern Uganda, the newspaper Munno reported Monday.

It said fighters from the Uganda National Rescue Front sent an open letter to Mr. Museveni's 16-month-old government demanding a peace conference.

"What will remove the whole problem would be dialogue with all parties and factions and an agreement on the new forum to govern this country," the newspaper quoted an open letter from the front as saying. It did not say who had signed the letter.

The deserters also warned that "any former member of the organisation who will remain in the broad-based government of President Museveni will be doing it at his own risk."

Munno said the letter also was addressed to Brig. Moses Ali, the former chairman and commander of the National Rescue Front who is minister of tourism and wildlife in Mr. Museveni's cabinet.

The newspaper did not specify the number of soldiers who deserted nor did it give a date.

Brig. Ali was among three guerrilla commanders who joined Mr. Museveni's government after the new leader's army took Kampala on Jan. 25, 1986 from a military junta that had ruled for only six months and Mr. Museveni called for national reconciliation.

The pro-Amin troops were among about 10,000 fighters from other rebel groups and the ousted junta who joined Mr. Museveni's National Resistance Army.

But thousands of other soldiers loyal to former governments took to the bush and started a northern insurgency nine months ago.

Most of the National Rescue Front fighters belonged to the army of Amin, who ruled Uganda from 1971 to 1979. Amin was ousted in a Tanzanian-backed coup that brought civilian President Milton Obote to power. Mr. Obote ruled until July 27, 1985 when he was toppled in a coup led by Gen. Basilio Okello. Okello's junta had power for six months until Mr. Museveni's troops seized Kampala.

NASA blames loss of rocket on launch team

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (R) — A U.S. space agency investigation has blamed the loss of an Atlas-Centaur rocket and its \$83-million military communications satellite last March on a failure by launch officials to take enough note of weather conditions.

The team in charge of the March 26 launch gave the go-ahead order "in violation of established criteria" concerning the possibility of lightning, a senior official with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) told a news conference.

Jon Busse, director of NASA's Office of Flight Assurance, who headed the committee investigating the fiery failure of the rocket, said investigators found 10 indications of lightning on the scarred remains of the Atlas-Centaur bull, which was blown up by ground controllers about 50

seconds after liftoff when it went out of control.

There had been numerous indications that the weather generally was not favourable for launch, he said, yet "no one stood up and said don't launch."

The panel also sharply criticised the air force weather team which informed the launch personnel that, from their standpoint, atmospheric conditions were acceptable for a launch.

The panel found some members of the weather team thought their only role was to relay weather information to the launch centre for evaluation and decision.

"There was a reluctance by these people to challenge the 'go' decision once it had been made," Mr. Busse said.

"The air force made a bad call and NASA missed that bad call," Mr. Busse said.

Former U.S. counterspy chief, James Angleton, dies

WASHINGTON (R) — James Angleton, former head of counterintelligence for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), has died in Sibley Memorial Hospital a hospital spokesman said.

Mr. Angleton, 69, was a member of the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of the CIA during World War II, and joined the CIA shortly after it was founded in 1947, becoming head of counterintelligence in 1954.

Although much of his work was classified as top secret, he was credited with having played a part in unmasking as a double agent Kim Philby, a former member of Britain's MI6 secret service, who fled to Moscow in 1962, and in building the case against Soviet

spy Colonel Rudolf Abel, who was later traded for U2 spyplane pilot Gary Powers.

Mr. Angleton resigned in 1975 after William Colby succeeded Richard Helms as CIA director. Mr. Angleton had been severely criticised for his handling of Soviet defector Yuri Nosenko, who was held for three years after claiming an earlier defector, Anatoli Golitsin, had deceived Mr. Angleton into believing a Soviet "mole" had infiltrated the CIA.

Angleton accepted Golitsin's warning that Nosenko was a "false" defector sent to discredit Golitsin and devoted himself increasingly to seeking a CIA "mole." None was ever found.

Meese faces criminal probe

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Attorney General Meese, long a member of President Reagan's inner circle, faces a criminal investigation by a special prosecutor into his ties to a scandal-plagued defence contractor, Wedtech Corp.

Special prosecutor James McKay said Monday he would immediately launch his probe into Mr. Meese's dealings with Wedtech, a bankrupt New York City firm.

Mr. Meese himself requested the independent investigation, saying he was confident the inquiry will show he acted properly and lawfully.

The investigation marks the sixth probe by special prosecutors into allegations that current or

former top Reagan administration officials violated the law.

The most prominent investigations involve the Iran arms scandal, which has shaken Mr. Reagan's presidency, and the lobbying activities of Michael Deaver, a former White House aide and long-time Reagan confidant.

Mr. McKay was already investigating allegations that Mr. Reagan's former political adviser, Lyn Nofziger, may have improperly contacted "White House" officials on behalf of Wedtech. He agreed to broaden his probe to include Mr. Meese.

Mr. Reagan defended Mr. Meese's character and said his long-time adviser acted in the public interest.

British politicians warm up for general elections

LONDON (R) — Britain's politicians warmed up on Tuesday for what promises to be one of the most acrimonious general election campaigns for decades, with opponents of the opposition Labour Party accusing it of making the first pre-poll gaffe.

With the three-week campaign not due to start officially until Monday, politicians from the ruling Conservative Party and other Labour opponents seized on comments made in Moscow by Labour's veteran foreign affairs spokesman, Denis Healey. Shortly after Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Monday called the election for June 11, Mr. Healey, a former defence and finance minister, was quoted as saying:

"I think the Russians are praying for a Labour victory."

He added: "Perhaps praying is an unfortunate choice of words," but then went on to say: "I think they would much prefer a Labour government and the idea that they would prefer a Tory (Con-

servative) government, I think, is the most utter bunkum (rubbish), and they authorised me to say so."

His comments, published widely in British newspapers, drew unwanted attention to Labour's controversial defence policy, which is based on unilaterally scrapping Britain's nuclear deterrent and closing all U.S. nuclear bases.

Conservative right-wing backbencher Geoffrey Dickens commented: "Of course the Soviets would like a government in Britain that would give up all our defences and leave us totally vulnerable for the Russians to trample all over us if they thought fit."

"Mr. Healey has compromised the Labour Party's election policy and has laid bare what many of us already know, that the Russians would just love to deal with a government which was a complete pushover in the field of defence."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHAHIN
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠ 6 7 ♣ 8 9 10 ♠ 8 2
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit and, at the same time, has announced a very powerful hand. Your hand has distinct trick-taking possibilities that would not be described by a bid of three diamonds. Since you have already limited your hand by passing, jump to four diamonds, or even five, now.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 9 3 ♠ 10 5 2 ♠ 7 ♠ 8 3
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

A.—That depends on your method. If you are employing weak jump overcalls, this is the hand for that action: a good six-card suit and no defense outside your own suit. If you cannot make a weak jump overcall in your system, bid one heart.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 9 3 ♠ 10 5 2 ♠ 7 ♠ 8 3
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

A.—You have the perfect shape for a takeout double, but with only one king and no ace your hand is a trifle too weak for such action. Pass, and see how the auction develops.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 10 5 4 ♠ 9 8 7 ♠ 9 ♠ 10 7
What is your opening bid?

A.—You have a very strong hand, but it is a whistler short of a demand bid. If you count losing tricks, this hand has five, one more than the maximum for a strong two bid. Open one spade.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 10 5 4 ♠ 9 8 7 ♠ 9 ♠ 10 7
What is your opening bid?

A.—Again this hand is a trifle weak for an opening bid of two spades. However, it is too strong for one spade. Bid two no trump.

You have a balanced hand, and a five-card major need not bar you from making your natural opening bid.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠ 9 7 ♠ 10 5 2 ♠ 7 ♠ 8 3
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Partner should have quite a fair hand and good suit for his overcall of one spade, so you might have enough for game even though your queen of hearts is of doubtful value. However, you could almost surely make three no trump if partner has a heart guard. Start by cue-bidding two hearts to test partner's reaction. If he simply rebids two spades, make one more try with three clubs.

Madonna, husband 'having problems'

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Sean Penn, leader of the so-called Hollywood bratpack, and pop singer Madonna are having marital difficulties, but hope to work things out, a publicity agent has said. The difficulties come shortly before Penn, 26, could be sentenced to six months in jail for violating a probation order by punching a film extra in the face. The publicity agent, Liz Rosenberg, who represents Madonna, said so far as she knew the couple had not legally separated. "They're having some marital difficulties, but they are hoping to work them out," she said. Penn, who leads a group in a sunset ceremony in the film star Madonna, 28, were married in Aug. 16, 1985. Penn, who recently starred with his wife in the film Shanghai Surprise, must appear in a Los Angeles municipal court on June 23 to face accusations that he punched film extra Jeffrey Klein in the face after he spotted him taking photographs during the shooting of Penn's latest film, Colours. The alleged attack would violate a one-year probation order served on Penn last February after he pleaded no contest to a form of guilty plea — to hitting a songwriter, David Wolinski. Penn had accused Wolinski of trying to kiss Madonna.

Bank aide pleads guilty to fraud charges

NEW YORK (R) — A commercial lending officer of Bank Leumi Trust Co. of New York has pleaded guilty in Manhattan Federal Court to fraud and tax evasion charges arising from a kickback scheme. Philip Goldfarb, a former account officer in the Commercial Finance Department of Bank Leumi, admitted he obtained thousands of dollars in cash and property in 1983 from officers of two businesses which had received loans from the bank. Goldfarb helped approve hundreds of thousands of dollars in loans to the two firms that secured them with fraudulent accounts receivable. Goldfarb also admitted that he failed to declare the cash and gifts on his 1983 federal tax return. He is scheduled to be sentenced on June 22, when he could receive up to 15 years in jail and \$20,000 in fines.

Lions Clubs urge admission of women

OAK BROOK, Ill. (R) — The International Association of Lions Clubs, the world's largest public service organization, have given the go-ahead for its chapters in the United States to admit women. The organization, which has a membership of 1.3 million in 162 countries, said a recent supreme court decision which ordered Rotary Club not to exclude women as members in the United States prompted the action. The Lions President Sten Akestam of Sweden said the group's board was encouraging U.S. chapters to admit women. The policy for clubs in other countries will be set at the group's international convention in Taiwan in July.

80 hospitalised after wedding banquet

HONG KONG (R) — Eighty people ended up in hospital with food poisoning after a wedding banquet at a restaurant called Hygiene in south-west China, a Hong Kong newspaper said Tuesday. Wen Wei Po said in a report from Wuzhou in Guangxi province that 19 guests were still in hospital a week after the wedding.

Conference tackles fight against drugs

BELGRADE (R) — Customs officials from the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact are meeting in Bulgaria this week to discuss a joint fight against drugs, the official Bulgarian BTA News Agency said Tuesday. The conference includes officials from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, East Germany, Poland, Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, as well as Mongolia and Cuba, BTA said. The agency, monitored in Belgrade, said they would discuss cooperation in drug enforcement. Communist countries have reported growing drug abuse in recent years, though it has not reached the level seen in Western countries. Some East Bloc countries, notably Bulgaria, which lies on the "Balkan route" from the Middle East to Europe, are assuming a bigger role in the fight against trafficking, and have seized large hauls of narcotics.

'Soviet shops sell more alcohol'

MOSCOW (R) — Shops in the Gorky region east of Moscow are being forced to sell more alcohol in defiance of the Kremlin's anti-drunk drive in order to pay wages to their workers, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Tuesday. The article was the latest in the official press to make clear that the campaign against vodka and other hard liquor which Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev launched two years ago has been encountering obstacles. Pravda said shops in Gorky, faced with the need to pay wages out of their sales revenues, had no choice but to increase the amount of alcohol available because other goods were in short supply. "The directors of food stores are complaining of a shortage of confectionery products, fish and cheeses," Pravda said. "Supposedly, the situation in the region is satisfactory with dairy products, but the choice is wretched." One government body in the Gorky region overruled a state prosecutor who protested against the decision to let more shops sell alcohol, the newspaper said. Pravda said shopworkers were also worried by the imminent introduction of a new scheme which will tie their wages more closely to the profits of their enterprises. In Moscow, where long lines outside liquor stores are a common sight, authorities recently extended opening times in response to public complaints that the anti-vodka campaign was forcing moderate drinkers to waste hours in queues.

Spanish police seize hashish, arrest 3

MALAGA, Spain (R) — Two Moroccans and a Spaniard who attempted to smuggle 22 kilograms of hashish into Spain concealed in butter were arrested in this southern Spanish seaport, police said. Specially trained dogs detected the drug in the boot of a Dutch-registered car as the men prepared to disembark from a ferry which had brought them from Melilla, a Spanish enclave in northern Africa.

Italian suggests breeding ape-men

ROME (R) — An Italian anthropologist says he believes that hybrid "ape-men" could one day be bred for menial tasks or to provide transplant organs and his views prompted condemnation from Roman Catholic intellectuals. Professor Brunetto Chiarelli of the University of Florence told an Italian newspaper and a magazine in interviews that the process would involve laboratory fertilisation of a female chimpanzee with human semen. Roman Catholics denounced the idea as against the laws of creation and said such experiments should be prohibited. "Somebody could be tempted to produce subhumans destined for repetitive or degrading tasks or as 'reservoirs' for organ transplants," he told Corriere Della Sera newspaper.

'U.S. considers manned moon base'

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States is considering a manned moon base to assert its leadership in space, Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine has said. The moon base is gaining support as an option that would be quicker to achieve than a major exploration of Mars and would help prove the technology to make such a mission possible, the usually authoritative magazine said. It quoted NASA Administrator James Fletcher as saying "I think the right way to go to Mars is by way of the moon." The magazine said the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will this week begin issuing contracts to aerospace firms to provide studies of a lunar base. It said Mr. Fletcher and other senior space officials have been briefed on a moon base plan that would return U.S. astronauts to the moon as early as the year 2000.